



November 15, 2024

Dear Volusia County City Mayors and Commissioners/Council members

As you have likely heard, I have placed a discussion for a temporary moratorium on new residential development County wide. I have proposed an exemption for single homes built on private lots to continue with the approved storm water management plans and inclusion of storm water conveyance. I am asking for your support for this temporary moratorium so we can pause long enough to consider if and how our current development pattern, and carrying capacity, is affecting the property rights and quality of life of every Volusia County resident. It is my hope the temporary moratorium can be short and result in a better understanding of how we can manage stormwater without seeing further unintended damage. My greatest concern is for our constituents who have lost their most valuable investment in their homes and personal belongings. Each one of you serves because you care deeply about the quality of life for our constituents.

I have heard the concern expressed by members of our community that this is a drastic measure that will hurt our economy. The fact is that continuing with our current drain and fill development pattern has already caused undo economic damage and loss to a growing number of our constituents. Furthermore, it will itself be ruinous to our economy if we continue to build without assessing our flooding issues and the carrying capacity of our County to safely drain and hold excess water. It is no longer a problem just in 100- or 500-year storms, there are now areas flooding repeatedly after heavy seasonal rains. Each day we allow this to proceed without clear answers concerning the cause, prevention, and restoration is adding to the costs we already see no hope in paying. This is a difficult task to accomplish. Some of you have already had, or now have, temporary moratoriums in limited locations. Those were tough decisions you made for the benefit of your residents. I admire you for having the political courage to take those steps.

My hope is that we can all work together in solving this pressing problem that has caused so much suffering to our constituents already. I am asking for you to join me in this process because I have witnessed your concern for the people we serve. I believe Volusia County, including all our cities, have an opportunity to set a standard for the entire state in dealing with this statewide issue through a timely and constructive process that we develop together. Please call or email with any questions or concerns you may have. I want to hear your ideas.

Best regards,

Jeff Brower
Volusia County Chair



Volusia County
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County Council
Jeff Brower • Chairman

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