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DATE:

February 2, 2018

TO:

Barbara Blake Boy, Executive Director

**Broward County Planning Council** 

FROM:

Henry A. Sniezek, Director

Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department

SUBJECT:

Broward County Land Use Plan Amendment – Pompano Beach PC 18-5

This memorandum supplements our previous comments dated January 5, 2018.

## **Hurricane Evacuation Analysis**

BCLUP amendment PC 18-5 proposes 259 additional multi-family units within the designated mandatory hurricane evacuation zone.

A high demand was placed on Broward County's evacuation shelters during Hurricane Irma, where overall capacity was reached or exceeded due to limits on available evacuation sheltering space and adequacy of staffing. As a result, it is felt that additional shelter capacity space and staff is not available. Additionally, the shelter capacity situation was exacerbated by the number of hotels that are also within the mandatory evacuation zone and thus place additional demands on shelters and hotels in the region. Many hotels outside the evacuation area were at capacity due to demand from Hurricane Irma evacuees and stranded tourists. The situation during the days leading up to Hurricane Irma was severe enough to require the early departure of cruise ships from the area to transport stranded passengers out of the region.

In this light, it is noted that **Policy 2.12.8**, of the BCLUP states that "Broward County shall discourage land use plan amendments which negatively impact hurricane evacuation clearance times and/<u>or emergency shelter capacities</u>."

Thank you for the opportunity to submit additional comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience, at 954-357-6670, or <a href="mailto:hsniezek@broward.org">hsniezek@broward.org</a>.

cc:

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