

Indian River County

Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department

1590 9th Street SW • Vero Beach, FL 32962 Telephone: (772) 226-1780 www.IndianRiver.gov/ParksandRecreation

November 20, 2024

Department of Environmental Protection Division of State Lands Land and Recreation Grants Section 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 585 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Re: Florida Communities Trust, Inc. - Indian River Land Trust Property Management Guaranty

Dear Florida Communities Trust Governing Board,

This letter is in support of the Indian River Land Trust's grant application for reimbursement of acquisition costs for a 48-acre Toni Robinson Trail Extension Property along the Indian River Lagoon, which includes over 1,000 feet of natural shoreline. This acquisition connects with nearby conservation lands, forming a nearly 150-acre protected area. The eastern portion of the property features mangrove forests, which are part of a managed mosquito control impoundment, providing essential habitat for wildlife affected by local development. The uplands, once used for citrus farming, have transitioned into woodlands that also support diverse wildlife. The Land Trust is seeking cost-share funding from the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) for approximately 60% of the acquisition costs for the parcel.

On November 19, 2024, at a regularly scheduled Indian River County Board of County Commissioners meeting, the Board provided authorization to provide a letter of guaranty for the purposes of application to the Florida Communities Trust for a reimbursement grant for the above-mentioned property. Should the Indian River Land Trust, Inc. dissolve, the County would be willing to assume management responsibilities of the parcel.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:	
Joseph E. Flescher, Ch	 nairman
Approved by BCC:	_, 2024.