March 20, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) / Citizen Relief

Dear Governor DeSantis:

The Florida Urban Partnership (“FUP”) greatly appreciates all you and your staff are doing to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. We specifically want to thank you for issuing Executive Order 20-69. We applaud you for your leadership and for establishing the tools and resources cities can use while also understanding the importance of transparency.

As you sort through the myriad issues created by the ongoing situation, the mayors who comprise the Florida Urban Partnership respectfully make the following requests of you as Florida’s municipalities continue to address the impacts of COVID-19. (FUP is a partnership of the mayors of the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Hialeah, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, St. Petersburg and Tampa).

While we recognize that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has authorized the Federal Housing Administration to put an immediate 60-day moratorium on foreclosures and evictions for homeowners with loans backed by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, we urge you to provide relief to Florida’s citizens by ordering a grace-period timeframe that affected homeowners would be relieved from making payments on mortgages, and further that no evictions of residential tenants occur during this timeframe.

FUP stands ready to assist you in any manner during this urgent time. We appreciate your leadership and careful guidance for Florida.

Respectfully,

Mayor Buddy Dyer on behalf of the Florida Urban Partnership