

APPENDIX D

Fire Control Districts Letters of Support



GOLDEN GATE FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

14575 Collier Boulevard • Naples, FL 34119 • (239) 348-7540 • (239) 348-7546 FAX

<http://www.qqfire.com>

RECEIVED
AUG 06 2011

July 13, 2011

BY:

To Whom It May Concern:

The Board of Fire Commissioners for the Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District has long-recognized that the eastern end of the Golden Gate Estates area lacks adequate means of emergency egress. Such access would provide safe passage for residents seeking to leave the area in the event of severe storms, wildland fire, or other circumstances that might necessitate mass evacuation by residents. A new interchange constructed on I-75 in the study area, between established exits 80 and 101, would provide this kind of egress, as well as providing response onto the Interstate for that portion served by the Golden Gate Fire District.

We recognize that the existing temporary access infrastructure on the overpass on Everglades Blvd. is a necessary component for environmental restoration. We believe that during this time unfettered emergency access to I-75 should be made easily available to all emergency responders and to the motoring public when existing roads in the area are closed due to flooding, wildland fires, or other emergencies. Maintenance of the existing temporary interchange improvements being used for the restoration project should remain in place until a permanent interchange is constructed.

The Board of Fire Commissioners for the Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District supports the construction of an interchange on I-75, situated in the best possible location to meet these described needs. In addition, the Board supports the ongoing maintenance of the temporary access gate presently located at the Everglades Blvd. overpass until such time in the future when a permanent interchange is constructed in the area.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Kevin Gerrity, Chairman

Commissioner David Stedman

Commissioner Charles McMahon

Our Family, Protecting Yours

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
ADVISORY BOARD

July 11, 2011

Commissioner Jim Coletta,

Without reservation, the Everglades Blvd. /I75 Interchange needs our immediate attention and support. Public health, safety and welfare are undoubtedly the most critical components of this project. Many important aspects of this include evacuations and response during hurricanes and wildfires, transport for motor vehicle accident victims, transport for victims of trauma injuries, as well as any emergencies that requires

immediate response to the Golden Gate Estates area, which encompasses many miles of rural roadways. Additionally, transports and response times for accident victims on the interstate would benefit significantly from this access. Transport and response time is critical when it comes to saving lives, and the ability to provide such services to the existing and future residents of this area is our highest priority.

We recognize that the existing temporary access infrastructure at this interchange is a necessary component for restoration. We request that during this time unfettered emergency access to I75 should be made easily available to all emergency responders and to the motoring public when existing roads in the area are closed due to flooding, forest fires, or accidents. We further request that the existing temporary interchange improvements being used for the restoration project remain in place until a permanent interchange is constructed.

We strongly support expediting the approval and permitting of the Everglades Blvd. / I75 Interchange in order to serve the public safety issues mentioned above. This would provide great benefit to the immediate and future needs of the residents and visitors of this area.

We authorize this letter of support be used by the Board of County Commissioners, the Florida Department of Transportation or any other agency that will be able to assist in expediting the permitting, design and building of the Everglades Blvd./I75 Interchange.

Sincerely,



Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Board
Ron Gilbert, Chairman, Port of the Islands
Jim Simmons, Port of the Islands
Tony Davis, Port of the Islands

**Big Corkscrew Island Fire Control and Rescue District
13250 Immokalee Road
Naples, Florida 34120
(239) 455-1204**

September 14, 2011

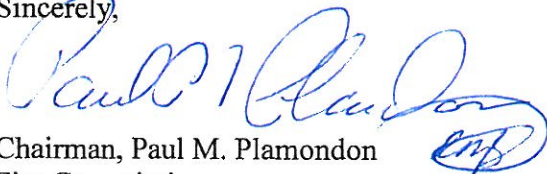
Florida Department of Transportation and
Collier County Board of County Commissioners:

The Big Corkscrew Island Board of Fire Commissioners unanimously agree that the Everglades Boulevard and I-75 Interchange along with the respective bridges in the surrounding communities, as identified by the East of 951 Horizon Study will promote the public health, safety and welfare of the community. The interchange aides evacuations and responses during hurricane and wildfire emergencies. Mutual aid between the fire districts in Collier County will also be enhanced by this interchange.

Victims of motor vehicle accidents, trauma injuries, hunting accidents as well as others that require timely and efficient transport from the vast estates area would benefit from this interchange.

We ask that the temporary access recently completed remain in place until a more suitable alternative is achieved.

Sincerely,



Chairman, Paul M. Plamondon
Fire Commissioner