

May 28, 2020

Honorable Ed Kelley, County Chair
Ben Johnson, Council at Large
Barbara Girtman, District 1
Billie Wheeler District 2
Deb Denys, District 3
Heather Post, District 4
Fred Lowry, District 5
George Recktenwald, County Manager

RE: Support for Ordinance 2020-5, amendment to the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use element and Appendix 1 establishing the Commercial Space Industry Opportunity Overlay (CSIOO);

Dear County Council,

Please accept this letter as support for Ordinance 2020-5 establishing the Commercial Space Industry Opportunity Overlay (CSIOO). For many years' businesses and stakeholders of Southeast Volusia have endorsed and supported efforts of our three cities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater and Oak Hill partnered with the Southeast Volusia Chamber of Commerce, Volusia County Economic Development and the Daytona State College in the pursuit to bring better and more sustainable jobs to our area. Through these efforts they have worked tirelessly and collaboratively in identifying industries that were clean, profitable, sustainable and compatible for our county. One priority industry identified was aerospace and the associated supply chain for the space commerce.

As evidence to the need and support for a unified effort to attract better jobs to Southeast Volusia all three cities adopted supporting Resolutions: •

- City New Smyrna Beach Resolution 06-16
- City Edgewater Resolution 2106-R-23
- City Oak Hill Resolution 2016-07

With the findings of the Bryce Report identifying that Volusia County has great opportunity to garner these higher paying, economic resilient jobs related to commercial space commerce and the support of the County, cities and business stakeholders, this unified group has created the Southeast Volusia Manufacturing and Technology Coalition. This regional unified group is under the leadership of the Southeast Volusia Chamber of Commerce. The group has created a web site www.sevolusia.org and is currently finalizing a video that they will be provide to Volusia County Economic Development, Team Volusia and other partners to help recruit Commercial Space Supply companies to Volusia County.

The Commercial Space Industry Opportunity Overlay allows the County and all other communities within the county to identify appropriate and zoning compatible areas within the county for these types of businesses to quickly locate. By creating this Overlay it not only allows Volusia County to be competitive with neighboring states and counties competing for these higher paying jobs but also allows for further diversification of our tax base. It will also provide an opportunity to correct our "talent drain" by allowing our children seeking higher paying jobs to stay here in Volusia County.

Please support the adoption of Ordinance 2020-5, with your vote "yes" to ensure a bright future for all of Volusia County.

Respectfully Submitted,