



**FloridaRealtors®**

The Voice for Real Estate® in Florida

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Colonel Andrew Kelly  
District Commander  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District  
701 San Marco Boulevard  
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Dear Colonel Kelly,

On behalf of Florida Realtors®, the state's largest professional trade association representing more than 200,000 REALTORS® in 51 local boards/associations, we write to reinforce our support for an equitable water control plan for Lake Okeechobee. Florida Realtors® appreciates the opportunity to provide public comment and the continued accessibility of your staff throughout this process.

On June 24, 2021, Florida Realtors® provided a letter of support for an equitable plan that that prioritizes restoring the natural flow of water south to the Everglades and avoids harmful discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries. Many other stakeholders encompassing the affected area share this same view.

We recently had the opportunity to observe the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) Governing Board Meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>, which you attended. In this meeting, SFWMD staff enumerated specific concerns in the modeling of Alternative Plan CC (CC) as it relates to the management of discharges to the Caloosahatchee estuary. The primary concern is that an increased amount of water sent during discharges in certain scenarios detailed in CC means that the Caloosahatchee estuary fares worse than under the current Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule 2008 management plan.

As you move forward with the optimization of Preferred Alternative Plan CC, Florida Realtors® urge you to focus on proportional improvements to address the equity concerns raised in the modeling of Alternative Plan CC by layering in different policies which provide increased positive outcomes for the Caloosahatchee estuary.

We thank you again for your availability and providing opportunities for public input.

Regards,

Cheryl Lambert  
2021 President  
Florida Realtors®

Margy Grant  
CEO  
Florida Realtors®

C.C: Drew Bartlett, Executive Director, SFWMD



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