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ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**



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July 13, 2023

Dear Community Connectors Grant Program Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Bluffline project, a transformative initiative that promises to significantly enhance the quality of life for residents in Escambia County.

The Bluffline project is a visionary effort to connect disparate neighborhoods, improve mobility, and foster a sense of community. Half of the proposed route, including the US-90/Bay Bluffs corridor, lies within District 4 and will provide a continuous, accessible route for pedestrians and cyclists, linking key destinations such as parks, schools and commercial areas.

This project is not just about creating a greenway; it's about creating opportunities. By increasing access to local businesses and connecting the tourism center of Downtown Pensacola to the culturally diverse neighborhoods of Brownsville and Warrington, the Bluffline project will stimulate local economic development and breathe new life into areas that were once thriving retail corridors.

Furthermore, the Bluffline project is committed to preserving and rehabilitating natural habitats along the route, including the ecologically significant Pensacola Bay Bluffs system and the publicly-owned forest and wetlands at Jackson Lakes. This commitment to environmental stewardship is commendable and aligns with our county's goals for sustainable development.

The lead organization, Bluffline, Inc., has demonstrated a strong commitment to community engagement and has built a robust coalition of like-minded groups, including neighborhood associations and local businesses. Their efforts have already garnered significant support at the local and state levels, and I am confident in their ability to successfully implement this project.

In conclusion, I believe the Bluffline project is a worthy investment that will yield significant benefits for our community. I urge you to consider this application favorably and look forward to the positive impact this project will have on Escambia County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lumon J. May". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Lumon J. May, Chairman
Escambia County Commissioner, District 3
District3@myescambia.com