

# WATERFRONTS FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



## Community Statement of Interest Designation Process: Step One

*The Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program is a program of the Department of Economic Opportunity and is funded in part by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Coastal Management Program, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The views expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the State of Florida, NOAA, or any of its subagencies.*

## ***WELCOME TO THE WATERFRONTS FLORIDA NETWORK!***

Working waterfronts are critical to Florida's economy, culture, and heritage. The Waterfronts Florida Program works with communities to protect and enhance contemporary waterfronts through planning. By forming a local Waterfronts Florida Partnership, your community joins a state-wide collaborative effort to protect Florida's waterfront resources through addressing the following priority areas:

- Public access to the waterfront area;
- Hazard mitigation;
- Environmental and cultural resource protection; and
- Enhancement of the viable traditional economy or economic restructuring, as feasible.

There are three main steps a community must take in order to receive designation as a Waterfronts Florida Community. The first step is to get buy-in and support from the community, build your Waterfronts Florida Partnership Committee, and submit a Statement of Interest. Next, a community must assess its existing capacity and inventory needs, and finally a community must complete a vision and implementation plan that details the future work efforts. This document addresses step one – getting buy-in and support from the community. These three documents should work together and become the plan for your community when completed.

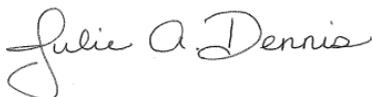
Building local interest in Waterfronts revitalization and stewardship is one of main goals of the Waterfronts Florida Program. Recruiting community partners to join the revitalization effort should begin at the outset of the revitalization process and continue through all stages of the planning and plan implementation process.

Your community must create a Waterfronts Florida Partnership Committee (an established organization or core group of individuals committed to coordinating the local program) before creating the vision plan or receiving designation as a Waterfronts Florida Partnership Community. This entity should represent the diversity of perspectives and interests that apply to the local waterfront. The committee must have the ability to oversee development of a community vision and revitalization plan for the proposed waterfront planning area and to oversee the implementation of that plan. At least one member should represent the county or municipal government with jurisdiction. The other members should represent the various interests in the waterfront area including those that are commercial, residential, environmental, cultural, social, etc.

The Waterfronts Florida Program is extremely pleased to have the opportunity to work with your community. The Program, given authority in [Florida State Statute 342.201](#) is committed to its mission to assist with the overall improvement of Florida's waterways and waterfronts through building local partnerships.

If you have any questions about this statement of interest or the Waterfronts Program, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Julie.Dennis@deo.myflorida.com](mailto:Julie.Dennis@deo.myflorida.com) or 850-717-8478.

Thanks!



Julie A. Dennis  
Waterfronts Florida Program Coordinator

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## Statement of Interest Submission

The Community Statement of interest should be submitted to:

Attention: Julie Dennis  
Waterfronts Florida Program Coordinator  
Department of Economic Opportunity  
Division of Community Development  
107 E. Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4120

Electronic submissions are acceptable as well: [julie.dennis@deo.myflorida.com](mailto:julie.dennis@deo.myflorida.com).

## Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the criteria set out below to be eligible for designation as a Waterfronts Florida Partnership Community:

- The applicant must be:
  - ◆ A municipal or county government; or
  - ◆ A local nonprofit organization or other similar organization participating with the county or municipal government (nonprofit organizations must demonstrate a good working relationship with local government staff and officials);
- The community must be a coastal community with a coastal element in the local government comprehensive plan;
- The community must recognize the waterfront as a special place and be committed to developing policies that encourage the preservation of recreational and commercial working waterfronts;
- The community must have staffing or funding resources to support a local Waterfronts Florida program manager for at least two years upon designation. The community must also be able to fund travel expenses for the program manager to attend training and other meetings associated with the program. Communities are strongly urged to utilize full-time managers; however, if a community cannot provide a full-time manager, the applicant needs to sufficiently demonstrate that the program will still be a success with a part-time manager.
- The community must create a Waterfronts Florida Partnership Committee by the time of inventory with members representing the broad interests of the waterfront area and at least one member representing the county or municipal government. The community should maintain the Waterfronts Florida Committee in order to remain active in the program;
- The designated waterfront area cannot include a major, deep-water port, i.e., it cannot generate more than \$5 million annually in operating revenues; and
- The designated waterfront area should be contiguous, a manageable size, and have a common identity, focusing on its waterfront location.

**The following sections must be included in the Community Statement of Interest:**

1. Applicant Contact Information. Please identify a contact person for the planning process. The following information should be identified:

- Name of City or Town
- County
- Mailing Address
- Point of Contact for Planning Process
  - Name/Title
  - Organizational Affiliation
  - Phone number
  - Email Address

If the applicant is not a county or municipal government, please provide the following:

- Mission statement of the applicant organization;
- Description of the organization’s status [incorporated, 501(c)(3), and has “active status” with the Florida Department of State, Divisions of Corporations.];
- Date organization was established;
- Proof of partnership with the local government, including the following:
  - A description of how the proposed Waterfronts Florida Partnership’s activities will be coordinated with local government processes;
  - A description of the local government offices that are involved with the Partnership;
  - A resolution from the local government specifying support for working with the nonprofit organization on the local Waterfronts Florida Partnership (Appendix B);
- Statement explaining why the applicant is interested in leading this revitalization effort;
- Details on activities and projects that the organization has accomplished in the last three years;

2. Current Activities within the community. Describe who is currently leading the effort to establish the Waterfronts Florida Partnership Committee.

3. Provide a list of likely committee members and indicate their affiliation, such as the local governmental office, organization or constituency, or private interest they represent. Attach any statements from committee members who have already committed to serving on the committee supporting the application and confirming their participation on the committee.

4. Complete the Public Elected Official Certification or adopt a local resolution that includes the components of the certification and commits the city/county to the Waterfronts Florida Partnership (see attached form).

## Public Elected Official Certification

I hereby certify that the City/County/Town/Village of \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to participate in the Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program. We understand the requirements of the program, including the need to develop and implement a vision plan for the revitalization of the local water and provide a program manager and sufficient travel/expense money to actively participate in programmatic meetings and events. We hereby commit to monitoring the outcome of the partnership and reporting progress.

Chief Elected Official or designee:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015

by \_\_\_\_\_. Personally known \_\_\_\_\_ or Produced

Identification \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print, Type or Stamp Name of Notary

Commission No. \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_