

Good evening Councilors, Town Staff, Residents, and Citizens here and on YouTube,

Just over a year ago, the Universe Boulevard Stormwater Project—the largest public works project in both scope and cost in the history of Juno Beach—was rightfully recognized by the Town Council as a public infrastructure initiative. Accordingly, the Council determined that financing this project should be a Town responsibility. The residents of Ocean Trace, along with our neighbors at The Waterford, are deeply grateful for this decision, which relieved our communities of the financial burden initially assigned to us.

At that pivotal meeting in 2023, many residents from our residential communities spoke. While our Ocean Trace leaders expressed gratitude for the Council's decision, they also noted the significant out-of-pocket expenses our residents incurred over the years, totaling more than \$37,000 for necessary repairs related to the stormwater infrastructure.

At that time, the Council deferred discussion on reimbursement, understandably prioritizing the multi-million dollar funding needed to complete the Universe Boulevard Project. We fully appreciated the gravity of those financial concerns, as we ourselves had navigated difficult decisions and assessments to cover our share of stormwater expenses prior to the Council's intervention.

Now, with this historic project completed, Juno Beach remains a model of resilience, preserving the town's unique character. We commend the Town's successful application of high standards to subsequent projects like Celestial Way, which reflect the thoughtful approach taken to maintain Juno Beach's quality of life.

On November 4, 2024, we submitted invoices to the Town Staff detailing the expenses Ocean Trace bore, totaling \$43,244.55. Today, we respectfully seek a minimum of three Councilors' support to add our request for reimbursement to the January 2025 Town Council Meeting agenda. We believe our case for reimbursement is compelling and rooted in the same principles that govern other town-funded stormwater projects.

In the interim, any Council members, Staff, or residents interested in discussing this matter or understanding our rationale further are welcome to reach out to us:

Ocean Trace Environmental Association
801 Uno Lago Drive
Juno Beach, FL
Lou San Lorenzo, President

Thank you for your attention and consideration. We look forward to the opportunity to present our case to the people of Juno Beach, seeking a fair resolution that reflects the Town's standards for similar projects.