

District No. 1 - Ronald Williams
District No. 2 - Rocky Ford
District No. 3 - Robbie Hollingsworth
District No. 4 - Everett Phillips
District No. 5 - Tim Murphy



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS • COLUMBIA COUNTY

March 27, 2023

City of Lake City
Paul Dyal, City Manager
Via Hand Delivery

RE: Conditional Acceptance of Richardson Community Center Deed

Dear Paul,

As I am sure you have read in media coverage of the Board of County Commissioners' meeting on March 23, 2023, the Board has agreed to take title to Richardson Community Center on the condition that the City commit no less than \$150,000.00 per year to continuing recreation programs at the center.

If you will recall, prior to the City offering the deed to the County, the Board approved continuing funding of Richardson at \$150,000 per year to augment the City's operational budget for the center. Since the roles would be reversed if the County accepted the deed, the Board would like the City to show the same level of commitment to keeping Richardson operating at a high level to benefit all those who get so much from its many services.

I understand your next City Council meeting will be one week from today. I'm also aware that members of the Council have expressed concern as to whether the City can afford to make the requested commitment. Please keep in mind that funding at \$150,000.00 per year is a small fraction of what it would cost the City to keep Richardson up and running. We hope the Council will agree that the amount requested by the Board is more than fair considering that Richardson is located within the City limits and provides so many services the City might otherwise be asked to provide if Richardson were not there.

You will recall that the County had previously announced on January 6, 2023, that it would vacate Richardson on or before the 31st of this month. Given these recent developments so close to that deadline, we will postpone that move-out date until the expiration of our 90-day notice on April 6, 2023. We hope that we will have received the City's commitment before April 6, 2023, to avoid any break in operation of Richardson.

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Letter to Paul Dyal
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If I can answer any questions or be of any further assistance to you, your office, or the Council in bringing this matter to a positive conclusion, please let me know as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



David Kraus
County Manager

Copies to:
Board of County Commissioners
Kevin Kirby, Asst. County Manager
Joel Foreman, County Attorney