



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 3, 2017

Jack Brown
County Administrator
221 Palafox Place
Pensacola, FL 32502

Dear Mr. Brown,

Thank you for finding the time yesterday to meet with me and talk about some of the development options for the former Escambia Wood Treating Company site.

Based on the discussion that took place at the January joint meeting, it appears that it is the consensus of both the City and the County that any future development of the site would best take place if all of the property was held by a single owner and the entire area was under a single jurisdiction. In order to facilitate single ownership, the Mayor's staff has recommended that the City deed its roughly 15 acre parcel to the County. That recommendation requires City Council approval. If the Board of County Commissioners is amenable to that recommendation I will place it on the April 13 City Council agenda.

Currently, the City does not have a plan to develop the parcel that it owns or a plan for the development of the entire site. Although some options were discussed at the joint meeting, the questions of who would be responsible for developing the site and how that development would be financed have not been formally addressed by the City Council or the Office of the Mayor. However, based on the discussion at the meeting, there seems to be a mutual understanding and appreciation for the principle that the risks and rewards of development must be shared equitably by whoever ultimately develops the site.

I look forward to your response to the proposal to return the city-owned parcel to the County and continuing our discussion about the best path forward for the development of a midtown commerce park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric W. Olson", is written over a circular blue stamp.

Eric W. Olson
City Administrator

CC: Ashton Hayward, Mayor
Brian Spencer, City Council President