

Escambia County Board of County Commissioners
221 Palafox Place, Suite 400
Pensacola, FL 32502

April 6, 2026

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing to express our continued support for improvement to the Pensacola Bay Center. We have thoroughly reviewed the most recent studies conducted by Escambia County and the City of Pensacola. As a result, our position has not changed. The addition of a multipurpose Event Center in conjunction with a significant renovation of the Bay Center is the best option for our community and would create economic returns far greater than the investment. Our members do not support a dedicated Convention Center due to the limited types of events we could host and the small number of events that would be attracted to a destination of our size and airport capacity.

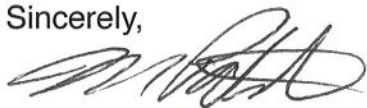
Although both studies reference the addition of a new hotel, our members do not believe this is necessary. With over 500 existing hotel rooms in the downtown/Bay Center area and over 500 additional rooms either under construction or in the final planning stage, there is no need for a new hotel.

We specifically would put forth our support for the following action steps:

- Bonding of the 5th cent for the estimated \$90M to \$100M
- Build a singular, minimum 75k sq. ft floor space facility
- Make that facility conducive for indoor sports (basketball, volleyball, cheer, etc.)
- Build it with capacity to be flexible enough to also accommodate events such as trade shows, expos, single room large participant events, boat shows, etc.
- Build a parking garage at one of the adjacent land locations

Our DMO members look forward to working with the County and its partners going forward as the success of this project affects our entire county.

Sincerely,



Mitesh 'Tish' Patel

Chairman, Escambia County DMO

cc:



Escambia County
Destination Marketing Organization

Mr. Julian B. MacQueen
Innisfree Hotels

Mr. Jamie Debole
American Fidelity Life

Mr. Ajit Patel
Days Inn

Mr. Dae Patel
Rhameshwar Hospitality

Mr. Robert Rinke
Levin Rinke Resort Realty

Mr. Rob Babcock
Premier Island Management

Ms. Paula Coster
American Fidelity Life

Mr. Leo Desai
Omega Hotel Group

Mr. Mike Desai
Omega Hotel Group

Ms. Mallory Studer
Studer Properties

Mr. Raj Patel
DEAR Hotel Management

Mr. Ted Ent
Innisfree Hotels

Mr. Warren Sonnen
O'Riley's Affiliates

Ms. Amy Martin
McGuires Group

Mr. Tim Carn
Southern Vacation Rentals

Mr. Yash Patel
Pinnacle Management

Mr. Shiv Patel
OYO Hotel Pensacola

Mr. Rob Babcock
Premier Island Management