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County Attorney/County Manager

TACO E. POPE, AICP Assistant County Manager

July 22, 2019

Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs 329 North Meridian Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for the West Nassau Historical Society's Fast Track Grant Application.

The West Nassau Historical Society is a non-profit organization that primarily focuses on the history and culture of the west side of Nassau County. For the past 49 years, they have coordinated various programs and special events, aimed at promoting the area's unique culture and preserving its history at the circa 1881 Callahan Train Depot which now serves as a museum of local history.

One of their most successful events is the Annual Railroad Days Festival and Classic Car Show which is widely attended by residents from northeast Florida and southeast Georgia. Last year's event featured 70 arts and crafts vendors, live entertainment, and numerous individuals exhibiting old machinery and antiques. There were over 40 entrees in the classic car portion of the event and over 1,800 people in attendance overall, of which 800 who took time to visit the historic museum.

The 2020 event marks the 15th Anniversary of the Railroad Days Festival. A Fast Track Grant would help them make this their biggest and best event yet. We wholeheartedly support them in their efforts and look forward to celebrating Nassau County's unique culture with residents and visitors of this wonderful county.

Sincerely,

Justin M. Taylor Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

JT/sr

(904) 530-6010 or (866)-474-1446

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