

JENNIFER DAVIS

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Martin County
Board of County Commissioners
2401 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, FL 34996

Dear Commissioners:

It is with great pleasure that I resubmit this Letter of Qualification to supplement my application for reappointment to serve on the Martin County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. I have lived in Martin County for two and a half years, residing with my family in District 5. I bring with me over **22 years of progressive government experience**, both at the municipal and state level, in a variety of roles of which I will outline below. I attained my **Bachelor of Business Administration** degree with a major in **Real Estate** from Florida Atlantic University. I am currently pursuing a **Master of Urban and Regional Planning** from the same school.

Immediately after obtaining my bachelor's degree, I was employed by the **Florida Department of Transportation** in the **Right of Way Division**. I was responsible for general acquisition of properties, subsequent displacee relocation, surplus property management, contract management and overall program planning for roadway projects. The two largest projects I worked on were the expansion of State Road 7 (US Hwy 441) and the widening of State Road 80 (Southern Boulevard). Having to relocate numerous displaced residents into affordable housing in Palm Beach County for those two projects alone proved challenging due to the lack of affordable housing at the time. I know that affordable housing has not improved enough to say "problem solved"...it is an ongoing effort.

With over a decade of experience at the **City of Palm Beach Gardens**, my position as an **Operations Manager** with the Unified Services division required me to work with Building Department, Code Enforcement Division, Life Safety Division and Police Department personnel, to make sure both existing and proposed development met the needs of the community. I was also one of the of the founding members of the City's **Community Action Support Team (CAST)**. CAST is a volunteer group of dedicated City staff that works to rehabilitate housing for those in need. During the years I was a CAST member, our work was often a joint venture with Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches.

My position as the **Business Planning Program Administrator** with the **Florida Department of Environmental Protection's** Southeast District office gave me the opportunity to continue to grow professionally in the public sector. I oversaw every aspect of the Southeast District's business operations, which tasked me with conducting feasibility analyses on all projects in which I was involved. In addition, this position allowed me the opportunity to attend **Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council** meetings and to represent my agency from time to time.

My current role as **Community Redevelopment Project Manager** with the **City of Port St. Lucie** blends brilliantly with serving on the Committee. Daily, I am responsible for numerous projects within the City's four (4) Community Redevelopment Areas, each of which involve some element of affordable housing, a topic that continues to be in the forefront of our region.

I know first-hand how challenging finding affordable housing can be, having lived in this region for over twenty-four years. First as a full-time college student, working part-time jobs to make ends meet; next as a new graduate, gaining entry-level employment in the public sector; then starting a new family and becoming a stay at home mom; and finally (not to mention the most challenging) as a single parent supporting three small children. I am fortunate to have re-married (and to have become a step-mother to two additional young adults!) and to have continued to grow both personally and professionally, and both my husband and I found ourselves in need to move north due to the lack of affordable housing for our family. We feel blessed to have landed in Martin County.

Commissioners, I have an overwhelming desire to continue to invest in the community in which I reside and would be proud to be reappointed to serve on the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Davis