



January 25, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Please Extend Your Federal Waivers on Permits and Regulations to Florida as Part of FEMA Accountability

Dear Mr. President;

The residents of Treasure Island, Florida simply want to return to their homes after two back-to-back hurricanes, and need building permits to do so. Our residents endured Hurricane Helene and massive flooding, followed just ten days later by Hurricane Milton and massive wind damage.

FEMA, federal regulations and bureaucracy stand in our residents' way. It has now been 120 days - four months - since the first hurricane and most of our residents still can't make simple repairs and return to their homes. We as local government have tried to help our residents, and FEMA steps in to hold us back.

It's been 120 days since the first hurricane. We should be closing out permits by now, not trying to issue them for the first time.

As the Mayor of Treasure Island, I watched your unbridled support for the residents of North Carolina and California yesterday as you demanded that the Federal Government clear the way for permits there. I think what you did yesterday was absolutely fantastic.

I respectfully ask that you extend the help clearing the FEMA bureaucracy to us in Florida. We need the same help with permits and regulations that North Carolina and California need. We also need the same financial resources.

Our residents have been willing and able for months now to do the necessary repairs to return to their homes and restart their lives. FEMA regulations and bureaucracy stand in our way.

Please help us and the other coastal communities here in Florida with permits and resources in the same way you're helping North Carolina and California.

God bless you, and God bless America.

Sincerely,

John E. Doctor
Mayor, City of Treasure Island

cc: FEMA Director Hamilton; Senator Rick Scott; Senator Ashley Moody; Representative Anna Paulina Luna