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September 29, 2017

Steve Scruggs
Lakeland Economic Development Council
226 North Kentucky Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801

RE: Biller Reinhart Engineering Group, Inc. Limited Visual Structural Evaluation
Catapult 2.0 / 502 East Main Street, Lakeland, FL
Via email to sscruggs@lakelandedc.com

Dear Mr. Scruggs:

I am in receipt of the above-referenced evaluation report regarding the condition of the former Cash Feed Building at 502 East Main Street. After a Tuesday, September 26, 2017 site visit and a thorough review of that report, I concur with Mr. Reinhart's findings, notably that "Compromised lateral stability has now escalated into a life safety concern and a dangerous condition," and "...current state of the main steel roof truss girders is considered to be a significant risk of collapse." I further agree with Mr. Reinhart that the structure should not be occupied, and encourage you to take all reasonable steps to ensure it remains secure from unauthorized access or occupancy.

As the City's duly appointed Building Official, my chief concern is public health and safety. Given the degree of remediation required to restore the structure to a safe condition, and the uncertainty of such an undertaking, I recommend the former Cash Feed Building at 502 East Main Street, Lakeland, FL be demolished. That recommendation does not relieve the owner of the responsibility to gain Historic Preservation Board (HPB) approval for the demolition, as the ordinance governing historic preservation prevents issuance of a permit

for demolition absent an approved Certificate of Review (CoR). Accordingly, I strongly encourage you to submit an application for HPB consideration as soon as possible.

I trust this sufficiently outlines my position in response to the BillerReinhart report, but if I can be of further service please let me know.

Sincerely,



Dan Gargas
Building Official

cc: Mike Murphey, WMB-ROI Architecture
Tony Delgado, City Manager
Shawn Sherrouse, Assistant City Manager
Jim Studiale, Director of Community Development
Brian Rewis, Community Improvement Manager
Teresa Maio, Planning Manager
Emily Foster, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation