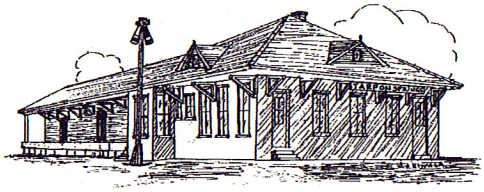

Tarpon Springs Area
Historical Society

August 4th, 2021

Mark LeCouris
Tarpon Springs City Manager
324 E Pine Street
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

RE: Request for Partial Funding of TSAHS's Jitney Display Building

Dear Mr. LeCouris,

As you know, the Tarpon Springs Area Historical Society, with the help of much of our community, has made a huge investment in the restoration of our 1927 Chevrolet "Jitney" as it is not only an interesting and beautiful antique vehicle, but is also an important piece of our Tarpon Springs history. The intention of the project was to have the Jitney be an ambassador for the Society and show it off around the city as a reminder of our rich history. This worked out well until last year due to the Covid pandemic.

The Society is extremely grateful to the city for allowing us to store the Jitney in your "city barn" although, I am sure your crews would prefer to have their space back. The Society has always felt that it would be great to have it on display, not only at events such as our recent Historic Golf Tournament, but to have it on public display all year around. A location which would reinforce the downtown and the Depot Museum would be to place a small structure on the south side of the museum at the Northwest corner of Safford Avenue and Court Street.

The "Display Garage" would be approximately 12' x 24' and be mostly glass on three sides with access doors on the west end. Please see the attached renderings which may give a feel for what we are trying to accomplish. This location would also allow easy access for the Jitney to taken around town more often.

To help accomplish this project, we are requesting $100,000 from our CRA funds to make this a reality. The architectural services will be donated along with several in-kind services from our community.

The Society believes that this project could be not only a keystone for the Museum, but also a key attractor in bringing many visitors downtown to see a very unique and interesting piece of Tarpon Springs History.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Hoffman, Jr. AIA
Acting President

160 East Tarpon Avenue Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689 (727) 943-4624