

April 20, 2007

Belle Glade City Commission 110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, West City of Belle Glade, Florida 33430

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Sharon J. Merchant

## Dear Commissioners:

It is my pleasure to put in a good word on behalf of Sharon J. Merchant for consideration in your interim city manager position. In light of the fact that Ms. Merchant will be coming before you for an interview soon, this information should serve to both introduce her, and convey my high level of respect and appreciation.

I've known Sharon for over 10 years, during which time we've collaborated on many projects. I got the chance to first work with her while I was serving as a Boynton Beach City Commissioner and Vice Mayor in the mid-Nineties, as she was one of our State Representatives. She always kept us well informed and stayed involved in intergovernmental issues and projects. Beyond my elected terms, as Executive Director for the local league of cities, I've had opportunity to call upon her for legislative needs and found her to always be responsive and helpful.

Belle Glade would be well served with Sharon. Her legislative background and keen understanding of the political landscape will be a great asset to the city, with its many complex challenges. Sharon's leadership skills will be instrumental in assuring that the city is in capable hands, she'll help put together a capable team and leave the community well positioned for the permanent city manager when you complete that search and process.

Sincerely.

Jamie Titcomb, Executive Director

