



April 20, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Board of Trustees

FROM: William D. Law, Jr., President

SUBJECT: EHPA Exemption for the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education

Item Description:

This item requests that the Board authorize staff to seek an exemption from the Enhanced Hurricane Protection Act for this building.

Overview:

The State Department of Education, in consultation with boards, county and state emergency management offices, requires that appropriate educational facilities be designed to serve as public shelters for emergency management purposes. Florida Statutes, in particular 1013.372, specifically states that a facility or an appropriate area within a facility be built in compliance with this amended code unless the facility is exempted from using the new shelter criteria due to its location, size, or other characteristics by the applicable board with the concurrence of the applicable local emergency management agency.

Salient Facts:

In July, 2008, Governor Crist announced the approval of the 2008 Statewide Emergency Shelter Plan by the Florida Cabinet. It was established that Leon County and the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Region, where the new Ghazvini Center is to be located, has a surplus of hurricane evacuation shelter space. The architect has contacted the Leon County Emergency Management staff and has been told that the College could get an exemption for this project.

Past Actions:

The Board has approved the request to seek an exemption for the new Florida Public Safety Institute Conference Center in Gadsden County.

Future Actions:

No further activity on the part of the Board is necessary.

Funding/Financial Matters:

The budget for the project is extremely tight. The change in the design would add costs for emergency power, additional domestic water, sanitary sewer capacity and added cost to the structural design of the roof structure.

Staff Resource:

Teresa Smith

Recommended Action:

Approve the request for an EHPA exemption for the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education Building.