

## 10. **OLD BUSINESS**

### a. Water Quality Issues

1. Reports from City Council members
  - i. Letter from Tourism Development Council (TDC) to Governor Crist regarding the State-wide fertilizer regulations

*the beaches of*  
**FORT MYERS**  **SANIBEL**

January 17, 2008

**The Honorable Charlie Crist**  
The Capital  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Crist:

The Fertilizer Task Force was appointed with the crucial objective to reduce the water quality impacts associated with fertilizer. Tourism is the largest industry in Lee County and as a coastal destination, water quality is of paramount importance to us; our economy depends on it.

As the Task Force prepares to submit a 'model' ordinance, we urge you not to accept a statewide law for fertilizer control, as each region has its own needs. Our environment, tourism, economy and our very way of life are at stake. Regulations regarding fertilizer can improve water quality; however, we ask you to ensure that the State Legislature does not preempt local authority to regulate the use of fertilizer.

We hope that you will take our request concerning this vital issue into consideration.

Sincerely,



**Ray Judah**  
Chairman, Tourist development Council &  
Board of County Commissioners

Cc: Tourist Development Council Members  
Suya Davenport, Executive Director, Visitor & Convention Bureau

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