

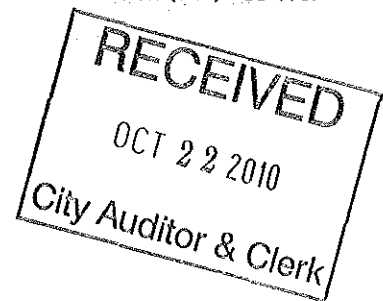
SARASOTA COUNTY BRANCH, NAACP

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October 19, 2010

Ms. Gretchen Serrie, Chairwoman
City of Sarasota, Charter Review Board
1565 First Street
Sarasota, Fl. 34236



Dear Members, Charter Review Board,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. At the request of the executive committee of the Sarasota County, NAACP, we would like to take this time to express our concerns with the upcoming agenda item to eliminated single member districts in the City of Sarasota.

In 1982 the NAACP won a landmark case in challenging the election process in the City of Sarasota that prevented African-Americans the fair opportunity to be elected to the City Commission. Because of this landmark case, the first African- American city commissioner was elected in 1985. The NAACP opposes any changes to the current charter that allows for single members districts and is prepared to defend the charter as written, and protect the rights of single member districts.

If you have any questions concerning our position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Trevor D. Harvey, President

cc: City Auditor and Clerk