

# Hillsborough Needs Energy Efficiency Dollars!

September 19th, 2023

Dear Hillsborough County Chair Ken Hagan & Commissioners:

We the undersigned organizations urge you to seize on a good opportunity to alleviate the energy burden on Hillsborough County families and help lower their electricity bills in the future.

The Department of Energy has allocated funds via a federal program called the [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program](#). Hillsborough County is eligible to receive \$831,960 in federal grant money to help homes with energy efficiency upgrades. We were gravely disappointed to watch state leadership reject \$346 million in federal funds that could have gone to help Florida families and small businesses in reducing their energy costs. The county commission should not make a similar mistake in passing up a chance to accept these funds. This grant could help the county to create an energy efficiency strategy and could assist our local families to weatherize homes and purchase energy efficient HVAC systems, heat pumps and other energy efficient appliances, resulting in lower electricity bills. At a time when electricity bills have soared and increasing temperatures have forced families to run their air conditioners at full tilt, our elected leaders should do everything in their power to provide cost savings.

Applications are still being accepted by the Department of Energy. We urge you to help Hillsborough County residents with the soaring costs of energy bills.

Signed,

Black Farmers' Collaborative, Inc.

Camelot Florida Inc.

Central Florida Jobs with Justice

Earth Ethics, Inc.

Florida Clinicians for Climate Action

Florida Rising

Florida Student Power

Food & Water Watch

GenCLEO - USF

Healthy Planet, Healthy People

Hillsborough County Democratic Environment Caucus of Florida

La Mesa Boricua

League of Women Voters Hillsborough County

LULAC Council 7259

Party for Socialism and Liberation

Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

South Shore Democratic Club

S.P.E.A.K. - Students Protecting the Environment and Animals through Knowledge

Students for Socialism

Tampa Bay Climate Alliance

Tampa Tenants Union

Tampa DSA

TDSA Eco-Socialist Working Group

The CLEO Institute