



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TO: Matt Noble, Principal Planner
Lee County Division of Planning

CC: Ellen Lindblad
Josh Philpott, AICP
Lee County Port Authority

FROM: Laura S. DeJohn, AICP

DATE: August 24, 2011

RE: RSW Comp Plan Amend. CPA2010-08
Agency Comment Responses

The RSW Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA2010-08) was transmitted for expedited state agency review as part of application package titled "Lee County 11-1ESR" on June 22, 2011. No objections were received from the review agencies. Below are the two review comments received from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Florida Department of Transportation. Responses are provided in italics on behalf of Lee County Port Authority in consideration of these agency comments in advance of the scheduled adoption hearing of September 28, 2011.

**Comment from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
via email dated July 28, 2011 from James R. McLaughlin to Paul O'Connor**

I am writing you in reference to the proposed CPA2010-08: Southwest Florida International Airport Non-Aviation Development Update. I have recently discovered that FWC has documented use of the site by Florida panthers. In addition, the site falls within the US Fish and Wildlife Service Panther Consultation area. The applicant will need to consult with US Fish and Wildlife Service to determine panther mitigation.

Response: Any impact to the Primary Panther Zone will be coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) during the future Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permitting for the subject property. The USFWS will make a determination if formal consultation is required, involving a biological assessment and opinion, or if they can provide "a likely to not adversely affect" determination for the project. Mitigation for unavoidable panther habitat impacts will be provided as part of this permit process.

**Comment from Florida Department of Transportation
via letter dated July 20, 2011 from Lawrence Massey to Paul O'Connor**

As indicated in Tables 5-1 and 5-2 of the Traffic Circulation Analysis report, I-75 (a Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) facility) from the proposed Terminal Access Road to Colonial Boulevard and SR 876 (Daniels Parkway) from east of I-75 (mp 7.397) to east of the rest area (mp 7.760) are anticipated to operate under adverse conditions during the YR 2030 long term planning horizon.

The department notes, however, that the new I-75 to Southwest Florida International Airport Collector/Distributor System scheduled for construction in FY 2011/12, the planned Alico Road Extension included in the Lee-Collier MPO 2035 Financially Feasible Plan, and the planned addition of four special use lanes to I-75 from the Collier County Line to SR 82 included in the Lee-Collier MPO

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2035 Highway Needs Plan is anticipated to address the deficiencies on I-75 and SR 876 (Daniels Parkway) identified in Tables 5-1 and 5-2 of the Traffic Circulation Analysis report.

The Department has no further comments on this amendment.

Response: As a multi-modal facility, Southwest Florida International Airport offers air travel alternatives to serve the public. The Airport is a key component of the national aviation system and Florida's Strategic Intermodal System. The traffic analysis provided with the application does not show any contributions to the level of service failures on the surrounding roadway network as a result of the proposed development through 2030. As noted by the Department, improvements including the new I-75 to Southwest Florida International Airport Collector/Distributor System are scheduled and are anticipated to address deficiencies on I-75 and SR 876 (Daniels Parkway).

The following letters of no comment were also received:

South Florida Water Management District (letter dated July 15, 2011 – no comment)
Department of Community Affairs (letter dated July 29, 2011 – no comment)
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (letter dated July 25, 2011)
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (letter via email dated July 15, 2011)

Thank you for coordinating this application through the review process. If any additional information is needed prior to the September 28, 2011 adoption hearing please feel free to contact me.