



Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management
C/O Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
1926 Victoria Ave.
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

June 30, 2014

Mr. Charles Basinait, Attorney at Law,
Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A.
P.O. Box 280
Fort Myers, FL 33902

RE: Wild Blue Proposed Development

Dear Mr. Basinait,

We would like to thank you for taking the time to present information about the proposed development in the Lee County Density Reduction/Groundwater Resource area called Wild Blue. We believe this is a better proposal than the prior.

As you know the waters of Estero Bay provide a tremendous resource for local residents and tourists who enjoy fishing and appreciate the local vegetation and wildlife. Due to the forthcoming increase in population the ABM makes strong and clear recommendations the preservation and restoration of this rare and unique ecosystem based on our principles*:

We believe the following modifications to the current proposal will better conserve our natural resources, afford better protection of: water quality, rare and unique habitats, listed wildlife and ecosystem. We encourage you to formally adopt them as you move forward through the zoning and development process.

1. Require low intensity development building practices for road, homes, yards and conservation areas. Specifically, use Florida xeric landscaping, pervious driveways, bioswales rather than curb and gutter on road ways, rain gardens and disallow turf in landscaping.
2. Build a separate electric vehicle roadway infrastructure separated from auto and truck traffic.
3. Allow only electric vessels in 'lakes'.
4. Implement noise reduction and Dark-Sky principles.
5. Provide for a perpetual funding mechanism for the management of the conservation lands.

The Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management (ABM) is a non-regulatory advisory body whose charge is to make comments and recommendations for the management of Estero Bay and its watershed. The ABM is dedicated to the preservation and sustained productivity of this natural resource. The membership of the ABM includes local, state, and federal government officials, and representatives of special interest groups such as developers, civic associations, builders, environmental groups, chambers of commerce and marine trade associations, and citizen representatives.

* The following principles of the ABM are the basis for the above suggestions:

- I. A. The ABM will be cognizant of the "big picture" and to the concept of "ecosystem management" and sustainable development.
- II. G. (4) Proposal s that reduce impacts to Estero Bay and its watershed, that might include: rural village concepts, urban infill, redevelopment sites, greenways; should be encouraged.

- II.H. (2) Transportation planning shall be undertaken with goals of increasing public transportation and enhancing new and existing roads with walkable, bikeable passageways that are connected and landscaped.
- III. B. (1) Natural, native vegetation versus non-native invasive vegetation within flow ways and natural systems will be retained to the greatest extent possible.
- IV. A. (7) Surface water management systems in new developments will be required to utilize state-of-the-art best management practices and increased BMP's.

Sincerely,

ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT



Lisa Beever

Chairperson

CC: Mr. Don Schrottenboer
SWFRPC

DRAFT