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July 18th, 2016

Commissioner Cecil L. Pendergrass
Lee County Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-0398

Re: CPA 2015-10 Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Dear Commissioner Pendergrass:

Please be advised that I am the owner (through an LLC) of premises 13200 and 13250 Appaloosa Lane, Fort Meyers. I would like to take this opportunity to write to you so that I may put myself, my consent and my property within the context of the proposed amendment in view of recent correspondence addressed to you pertaining specifically to myself from a third party.

I am not a developer. I am a nobody. As such, I believe that among other (nonmaterial) things, the only things I have tried to develop is patience and understanding for others and their concerns, a decedent sense of humor and some common sense.

Having put myself in context, I would like to briefly put that context in context with my property and my consent. I have owned the property for twenty four (24) years (not something a developer does). My property does not adjoin any residential subdivisions. During those twenty-four (24) years, I have religiously paid my taxes (which may also be considered a form of voting) without exemption. I believe that even within my limited resources I have been a reasonably good neighbor to all of my neighbors who have sought to improve their properties. I have either raised no opposition/objection (when simply notified) or when asked I have consented to their efforts to improve their properties.

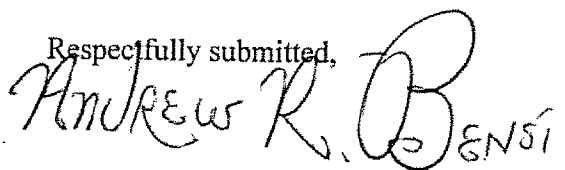
In fact, when the Diocese of Venice and St John XX111 Church sought my consent to their improvement, (which is practically across the street from my property) I impulsively had my reservations and did not think it was in my financial best interests to consent to their improvement. However, after putting the impulse aside and giving the matter a little thought, I decided that in view of the big picture, much bigger then my financial gain, I consented to their endeavor. I saw the great possibility of the greater benefit to Lee County, Fort Myers, the Diocese, the Church and of course the very individuals who were to be occupying the premises. In the end it was just common sense and decency that formed the basis for my consent.

In view of the statement concerning my intent concerning the applicable zoning laws, I respectfully direct your attention to the fact that the proposed amendment that is being considered by all concerned was not initiated by me. My property just so happens to be in the geographic area located under review. Moreover, I am neither inclined by nature, nor otherwise, to bend any rules, codes or laws to my benefit. I have taken the time to review all of the materials that are of public record pertaining to this application as well as even reviewing issues regarding the traffic flow.

Accordingly, in view of the larger picture, other than my potential gain, and to maintain consistency in view of the location, the surrounding area, the historical development, traffic flows and the available infrastructure, for me, as anyone else who has property in my location, it only makes common sense to consent to the proposed amendment, and thus, expanding the continuing potential benefit it can generate to all of Lee County and Fort Meyers. Nothing more and nothing less. I have annexed to this letter a very short addendum outlining some of the reasons (as I understand the situation) that support my common sense consent to the proposed amendment for higher density that is currently under consideration.

By reason of the foregoing, I am respectfully requesting that you as well as your fellow commissioners please vote in favor of the proposed amendment.

Thank you for considering my correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew R. Bensi

ARB/arb

cc:

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