



Jim Boesch
Mayor
District Five

December 14, 2018

William Ribble
Vice Mayor
District One

Lee County Local Planning Agency
P.O. Box 398

Howard Levitan
District Two

Fort Myers, FL 33902

Jon McLain
District Three

Re: Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA 2018-10014, Limerock Mining
Local Planning Agency Meeting, December 17, 2018

Katy Errington
District Four

Nick Batos
District Six

Dear Local Planning Agency Members:

Jim Wilson
District Seven

I am writing to convey the profound concern of the Village of Estero Council expressed at their December 12th Council Meeting, regarding the County's proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA 2018-10014 Limerock Mining. This amendment will overturn the critical protections of the current plan related to mining development within the Density Reduction/ Groundwater Resource (DR/GR) Future Land Use category.

Steve Sarkozy
Village Manager

Burt Saunders
Village Attorney

The Council was shocked to learn of the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) through the very recent posting of the Local Planning Agency (LPA) agenda on Friday, December 14, indicating that the CPA was to be considered by the LPA after only one business week following the notice. No prior notice has been given to affected local governments such as the Village, or the citizenry, of this dramatic change to the comprehensive plan. This is in stark contrast to the way in which the current protections in the plan were created, that is, after careful and thorough study of the issue of where mining should be allowed, balancing environmental issues, water quality issues and compatibility with existing residential uses against the need for limerock for construction, and after significant and sustained public participation in that effort.

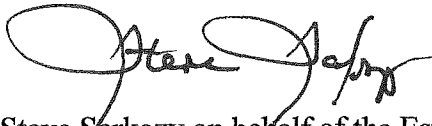
The Village of Estero is directly affected by development in the DR/GR and without adequate protections in the comprehensive plan its citizens, landowners, and businesses are threatened by environmental degradation, water pollution, detrimental traffic and safety impacts created by truck traffic and multiple other negative impacts. Yet, the County has not bothered to engage the Village in any discussions about the CPA or the future of the DR/GR. There has not been the courtesy of a public workshop on the meaning and effect of the proposed changes, much less any effort to meaningfully encourage public discussion and study as was the case with the creation and adoption of the planning controls associated with the award winning Dover Kohl study. The Village has no assurance that there is

adequate data and analysis to back up this wholesale abandonment of the plan's protections, nor is it evident at this time that the proposed CPA contains meaningful and predictable Standards for the use and development of the affected lands.

In summary, the Village Council does not support eliminating the polices or Map 14 in the proposed amendment.

The Village Council directed, by a unanimous vote to urge the Local Planning Agency to recommend that the amendment not be transmitted. If the amendment proceeds, it should at a minimum be delayed until it can be meaningfully discussed and evaluated and include participation of those affected, especially the citizens of the Village of Estero.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Sarkozy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Steve Sarkozy on behalf of the Estero Village Council
Village Manager
Village of Estero