

PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS

FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT

POLICY 1.4.1: The Rural future land use category are areas that are to remain predominantly rural – that is, low density residential, agricultural uses, and minimal non-residential land uses that are needed to serve the rural community. Natural resource extraction may be permitted in accordance with Policy 10.1.4. These areas are not to be programmed to receive urban-type capital improvements, and they can anticipate a continued level of public services below that of the urban areas. Maximum density in the Rural future land use category is one dwelling unit per acre (1 du/acre). See Policy 123.2.17 for a potential density incentive resulting from preservation and/or restoration of Rare and Unique Upland Habitat.

CONSERVATION & COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

POLICY 123.2.17: As an incentive to preserve, enhance, and restore indigenous Rare and Unique upland habitat, on land within the Rural future land use category, one (1) additional dwelling unit may be created for each one (1) acre of created, preserved and/or restored indigenous Rare and Unique upland habitat if approved and developed as a unified planned development that meets all the following criteria:

1. Development must be a minimum of 10 acres.
2. Development must have direct access to an arterial road.
3. Development must provide connection to public water and sewer services.
4. Development is clustered so as to maintain large, contiguous tracts of open space and protect environmentally sensitive areas. To comply with this criteria, a minimum of 60% open space is required, of which 50% must be indigenous preserve. The indigenous preserve may consist of created or restored wetlands, flowways/creeks, or Rare and Unique upland habitats. Management and monitoring of the indigenous preserve must be in compliance with the indigenous management plan required by the LDC. Monitoring timelines will be extended as needed to assure success criteria established in the indigenous management plan is achieved for at least five consecutive years.
5. Creation, preservation, and/or restoration of indigenous Rare and Unique upland habitats, as defined, must meet the following:
 - a. The area of the Rare and Unique upland habitats must comply with the minimum dimensions required for indigenous open space areas set forth in the LDC.

- b. The land where creation and/or restoration of indigenous Rare and Unique upland habitats will occur must contain the soil(s) needed to support the establishment and success of the indigenous Rare and Unique upland habitats.
- c. Habitats impacted by logging, drainage, and/or exotic infestation may not count towards the density incentive unless restored to standards established in an approved site-specific ecological restoration plan. The ecological restoration plan must include, at a minimum, a replanting plan, habitat restoration plan, success criteria, and long-term monitoring and maintenance criteria.
- d. A Conservation Easement, to be dedicated to the appropriate maintenance entity that provides Lee County or some other public agency, acceptable to Lee County, with third party enforcement rights must be recorded for areas used towards the density incentive. All Conservation Easements required as part of the planned development must be recorded within 5 years from first development order approval.