

Subject: CPA 2022-B Staff review

From: Becky Ayech <miakka1945@gmail.com>

Date: 7/29/2022, 10:08 AM

To: Brett Harrington <bharring@scgov.net>, Todd Dary <tdary@scgov.net>, Michael Moran <mmoran@scgov.net>, "Nancy C. Detert" <ncdetert@scgov.net>, Ron Cutsinger <rcutsinger@scgov.net>, Christian Ziegler <ctiegle@scgov.net>, Alan Maio <amaio@scgov.net>

BCC: mph_04@verizon.net

Good morning Brett,

In reviewing the Staff Report on CPA 2022-B, I came across a phase that I have never seen in all my 42 years of reviewing *Apoxsee*, now referred to as the Sarasota County's Comprehensive Plan.

On page 24, "it is not necessarily a location that the public goes to in order to enjoy the splendors of Sarasota County."

I have several questions for you:

1. Specifically, what planning principle looks at enjoyment of splendors?
2. What exactly are the "splendors of Sarasota County"? Red tide, crowded beaches where people shoot guns, dead fish along the beaches, closed beaches because of high bacteria counts, sitting in long lines of traffic, empty strip malls?
3. What data and analysis were used to determine those "splendors"?
4. What data and analysis were used to determine that pastures and agriculture were not "splendors"? Ag-tourism is a big draw. There is even a campground on Hundsader's Farm. There are tours conducted to show how vegetables are grown and people and children come by the bus loads brought out from town. I was a guide.

Dakin Dairy also has farm tours. I grew their vegetable garden and was part of the tour. Bus loads of people came to tour the Farm from town. Many were children from local schools. Many others were tourists from out of State.

In reviewing the Old Miakka Neighborhood Plan, page 42,(1), The neighborhood desires developments that harmonize with the natural, agricultural, and rural surroundings." This statement specifically supports development of homesteads.

Later, "Interestingly, the Neighborhood Plan does not propose the use of grants or other funding sources, or other methods, to acquire, maintain, or preserve large acreage of rural/agricultural lands in the Plan area.."

Specifically, why is that "interesting"? Since its inception, the Miakka Community has supported the right to farm. As the population in Old Miakka has increased since 1850, land has been divided into smaller holdings so families could enjoy the splendor of homesteading. The Community is NOT opposed to more families living on 5 and 10 acre homesteads, we welcome it.

The Community is NOT for removing the ability to homestead. Homesteads preserve large acreage and maintain it at no cost to the taxpayer, while providing a rural vista for everyone to enjoy.

The idea that grants or other mechanisms could be used to remove these opportunities begs the question of what are you preserving? Additionally, there was never an identification of who the parties would be to apply for the grants, who would own the property, who and how it would be maintained. The County did not step up and say they would be the responsible party.

Finally, I worked with IFAS, Sarasota farmers, ranchers, homesteaders and the School Board to come up with Comprehensive GOPs to help maintain and preserve these lifestyles including financial incentives and opportunities. I have yet to see any of them implemented. Perhaps you can provide me with some examples.

I look forward to your responses.

Have a great day.

Best regards,

Becky Ayech

President
Miakka Community Clubs



Virus-free. www.avast.com