

ECCL Report: March 2018

Executive Summary: 169th meeting of the Estero Council of Community Leaders



The Village of Estero is celebrating its third anniversary this month with a free, community-wide outdoor concert on March 16. Lee Health is collecting letters of support from Estero community members for their CON application for Lee Health Coconut Point. The Village has also been meeting to prepare for the Zoning Examiner Hearing for the Old Corkscrew Planation Mine. Regarding Corkscrew Road, Commissioner Kiker and Assistant County Manager Doug Meurer stated in a meeting with the ECCL and ECA that

they are going to address improvements to the road in their next CIP and the project will go from a Tier II Unfunded project to a Tier I Funded project.

The next ECCL meeting will be Friday, April 13, 2018 at 10:00 am at Estero Community Park.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE

- Fire Chief *Scott Vanderbrook*

- Annual Chili & Rib Cook-Off was Saturday, March 10 at Miromar Outlets.
- We are currently under **extreme fire conditions** in SWFL.
- The annual audit should be done by May 2018.
- Estero Fire Rescue is currently exploring potential properties in the Village for future growth and fire stations.
- They're beginning work on the 2018/2019 budget. Budget cycle starts October 1 – September 30.
- **Three Commissioners are up for election** in November 2018. Estero Fire Rescue supports the current Commissioners: Jeff Maas, James Mendolara, & Jack Lienesch.

SAN CARLOS PARK FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE

- Fire Chief *David Cambareri* & Public Info Office *Alexis Rothring*

- Both Cambareri and Rothring were unavailable due to a house fire call that morning.

VILLAGE REPORT

- No representative was available to deliver report this month.

VILLAGE OF ESTERO: THIRD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

– Chairman *Rev. Nolen Rollins*

- Estero’s 3rd Anniversary Celebration will take place **Friday, March 16, 2018** from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Estero Community Park. This is a **community-wide** outdoor concert with **FREE admission**.
- Co-Sponsors of the event include the ECCL, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Village Council, the mayor, and 9 of the 11 churches in Estero.
- Email nolen@kingmo.org for the digital event invites.
- ECCL will have two tents at the event for people interested in learning more: Economic Development Committee & ECCL Directory.



LEE HEALTH CERTIFICATE OF NEED (CON) SUPPORT LETTERS

- Lee Health Special Projects Director *Suzanne Bradach*

- **Background:** Lee Health made a commitment to bring a hospital to Estero. They purchased land in Coconut Point and filed for CON a few years ago but were denied. They changed direction and decided to build an ambulatory, out-patient facility built to hospital code with intent to add beds when opportunity was available.
- **Update:** In February, Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) filed letter of intent to file a CON for an up-to-100 bed hospital in Lee County (location unknown). If Lee Health didn't do anything and tried to compete for beds in South Lee County, the state could potentially approve the HCA application. If that happened, the chances of Lee Health being able to bring a hospital to Estero would disappear for decades. So, Lee Health decided to file their own letter of intent in the same cycle as HCA.
- **CON Timeline:**
 - February 21:** Filed Letter of Intent
 - February 22:** Lee Health Board approved CON Filing
 - March 7:** Shell Application Due
 - March 31:** Letters of Support Due
 - April 11:** Full Application Due
 - June 1:** Agency Initial Decision
- When Lee Health filed original CON four years ago, they received the highest number of letters of support ever seen in a CON application. However, the State said that the “cut & paste” letters they received didn't provide good information, stories, experiences, etc. that would justify the need for a hospital. So, Lee Health is changing their approach for the new application.

- **Community letters of support are needed.** (Due by March 31, 2018)

Address Letters To:

Bureau of Health Facility Regulation
 Marisol Fitch
 2727 Mahan Drive, MS #28
 Tallahassee, FL 32308

Send Letters To:

southleehospital@leehealth.org

Or if you prefer US mail...

Send Letters To:

CON, Lee Health
 4211 Metro Parkway, Suite 300
 Fort Myers, FL 33916



- **To clarify:** The letter should be ADDRESSED to the agency in Tallahassee but should be SENT to Lee Health in Fort Myers so they can attach it to their application.
- **What to include in your letter of support:**
 1. Begin letter with who you are & you support Lee Health's CON application
 2. Explain personal reasons for supporting the bed request
 3. Share details of how a hospital would personally benefit you or a loved one, friend, or neighbor
 4. Mention Lee Health's commitment to South Lee County
 5. Close with a statement of support and request that CON be approved
 6. Include name & contact information at the bottom of the letter
- Lee Health cannot disclose exact details, services, or number of beds (though it will not be more than 160 beds) until after their application is finalized in April. After April 11, Suzanne will come to an ECCL meeting and share exact details of application.
- Ideal goal is 300-400 letters of support (approx. 10 for each Estero community).
- Nick Batos, member of the Village Council and the liaison for Lee Health, has been representing the Village Council in their support of Lee Health.
- Lee Health is a public non-profit & HCA is a for-profit public corporation.
- Asking your community, personal physicians, and board of directors to support Lee Health is encouraged & appreciated.
- ECCL's Health Committee believes that one of the major components of maintaining good health is having high quality medical care available, so they expanded their mission to include major support for Lee Health's mission
- You can find all of the information on the ECCL's website:
<http://esterotoday.com/show-support-for-a-lee-health-hospital-in-estero>.

ECONOMIC OUTREACH COUNCIL (EOC)

- *Jim Gilmartin*

- The EOC's mission is to secure and engage as many talented and experienced professionals, business people, and others as volunteers to help a number of organizations that the EOC has identified to get volunteers.

- **3 Current Initiatives:**
 1. Junior Achievement
 2. FGCU's Institute for Entrepreneurship
 3. Lee County Schools
- **Junior Achievement:**
 - There is currently a mentor recruitment taking place with mentor training in April and the classes will be sometime in October or November of 2018.
 - If you're interested in mentoring, Jim Shields is offering an **orientation program** on **March 16 at 9:00am** in Grandezza's clubhouse.
 - If you're interested in observing a Junior Achievement class, please contact the Education Manager, Vanessa Santiago, at (239) 225-2590.
 - Learn more at the ECCL's website: <http://esterotoday.com/junior-achievement-program-seeking-volunteers>
- **FGCU's Institute for Entrepreneurship:**
 - **Speaker:** Bill Motzer
 - Initiative is still in development, but goal is to work with FGCU to provide mentorship and general guidance to students.
 - FGCU is having an **Entrepreneurship & Innovation Expo** on March 28, 2018.
 - FGCU wants to interview mentors and develop a database where students can decide who can best work with them.
 - Program is also looking to help veterans.
- **Lee County Schools**
 - **Speaker:** Kevin Tolliver
 - Currently meeting weekly and working with Lee County Schools to find out what we can provide for them (like career fairs).
- Learn more about the EOC at the ECCL's website: <http://esterotoday.com/estero-economic-excellence-outreach-council>



HEALTH COMMITTEE

- *Lowell Gerson & Director of Healthy Life Center Molly Grubbs*

- The upcoming Full Health Committee Meeting will have a more detailed update on the types of activities and services being planned for Lee Health Coconut Point. It will also provide an opportunity for input on the planning process and operation of the new facility as well as recruit volunteers.
- If you're looking for a presenter to come into your community to share updates on Lee Health Coconut Point, provide information on the CON letters of support, or share

information on health & wellness education that Lee Health can bring to your community, please contact Molly Grubbs.

- The Healthy Life Center will be moving to the new Lee Health Coconut Point facility when it opens in November.
- *The next Steering Committee Meeting will be March 13 at 9:30am at Fine Mark Bank.*
- *The next Full Health Committee Meeting will be March 27 at 11:00 am at Estero Rec Center.*
- Learn more about the ECCL's Health Committee at the ECCL's website:
<http://esterotoday.com/about-eccl/eccl-hospital-committee>

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

- *Pete Cangialosi*

- **Old Corkscrew Planation Mine Application:**
 - **Zoning Examiner Hearing** is tentatively planned for **March 27 at 9:00am**.
 - Within about a week, we should expect the county staff's report on the mine application. Peter along with some representatives with the Conservancy & Audubon and a few others are planning a meeting to discuss the findings of the staff report so they can be prepared for the Zoning Examiner Hearing.
 - If you want to get involved, please contact Pete Cangialosi.
- **Troyer Brothers Mine Postponement:** Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) deadline was pushed to December 3, 2018.
- **Florida Environmental Legislation Update**
 - **Ban on fracking** was to be voted on today (March 9, 2018).
 - **Wetlands Assumption, Bill 7043:** State of Florida wants to take wetland regulations away from the Army Corps of Engineers and assign it to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This is a terrible idea. Currently, the issue is counter-balanced between federal and state. With this new bill, all of the power will be put with the state, which is highly politicized. We also know that the FDEP has been eviscerated by the Scott Administration but will have to take on a large new program with no new staff or new budget. Both houses of the legislature have passed this, but Governor Scott hasn't signed it (though it indicates that he will). We're asking that people contact Governor Scott and tell him no on this bill.
 - **Florida Forever:** One-year allocation for fiscal year 18-19 of \$100.8 million. This is down from \$300 million a few years ago, but better than it was last year.
 - **Omnibus Growth Bill, HB 883:** Any land within 3 miles of a state university, no matter how it's classified in terms of zoning, must be included as urban use, only



applies to Counties with urban growth boundaries – so FGCU not affected.
Passed House, Senate decides today.

- If you're interested in following these issues, you can follow:

Florida Conservation Coalition: <https://www.wearefcc.org/action-alerts-updates>

100 Friends of Florida: <http://www.100friendsofflorida.org/2018-florida-legislative-session-custom>

Florida Wildlife Federation: <http://www.fwfonline.org/site>

- *The next Environmental Committee Meeting will be on March 23 at 2:00pm at Six Mile Cyprus Slough Preserve.*
- Learn more about Estero environmental issues at the ECCL website: <http://esterotoday.com/estero-news/environment>

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

- Bob King

- **Lee County Transportation Needs:**

- Capital Improvement Plan (C.I.P.) Amendments do not currently include any improvements on Corkscrew Road, relative to the four-laning.
- There was a meeting yesterday (March 7) by members of the ECCL and the ECA with Commissioner Kiker & Assistant County Manager Doug Meurer.



Meeting Results:

1. They're going to prepare the input for the next CIP & it will contain the improvements on Corkscrew Road. It's going to go from a Tier II Unfunded project to a Tier I Funded project.
2. The County is putting together a website that they hope to have available by the end of the month that will have updates on projects.
3. The "Complete Streets" concept will be considered. (Complete Streets incorporates things like heavy landscaping, narrower streets, bike paths, etc. to help slow down traffic.)

- **C.A.C. Report:**

- **Estero Bike:** \$100,000 study to select vendor by June, then that will proceed to create a Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan for the Village.
- **M.P.O. Impact Fee Discussion:** Not a normal CAC discussion topic, but will be made an agenda item in April.

- **AIM Traffic Study:**

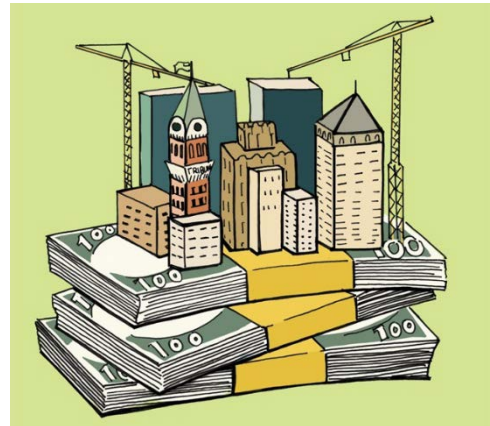
- Completed 5 tasks & presented the information in December 2017 to discuss the needs for improvement to Corkscrew Rd. Now, we move onto Tasks 6-8 which deal with how much it's going to cost & who will pay for it.

- **Task 6:** Transportation Improvement Cost Estimates (Meetings with AIM to Modify Initial Findings)
- **Task 7:** Environmental Support – Environmental study is progressing but slowly because they’re claiming that it has expanded dramatically in scope.
- **Task 8:** Proportional Share Analytics – Proportionate Share Determination combined with Impact Fees and several other sources will provide the money that will be used to widen the road.
- **Task 9:** Public Involvement – There’s only been one meeting so far. Don’t know when the next meeting will be held because they’re still trying to finalize Task 6.
- County website will include updates about the AIM Study.
- *The next Transportation Committee Meeting will be on March 15 at 9:30am at Fine Mark Bank.*
- Learn more about Estero transportation issues at the ECCL website: <http://esterotoday.com/estero-news/transportation>

IMPACT FEES: SCHOOLS, FIRE DISTRICT, & COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

- Don Eslick

- The county has been trying to diminish the use of impact fees and rely exclusively on the four other sources that are available.
- **Report on the Board of Commissioners Hearings to Date:**
 - 45% to continue (\$8,478 in impact fees on a single-family home, currently \$6,138)
 - Annual Escalator of 2.5% added each year for 5 years.
 - 100% rate slated for EMS and fire protection.
 - Added new categories to the impact fee schedule (senior care facilities and three categories of restaurants)
- **County Focus on Lee County Transportation Capital Improvement Plans (CIP):**
 - CIP Process: 10-year-plan where you plan what you’ll spend on road projects each year for the next 5 years and then, as a lump sum, the next five years. With that, the county can identify their estimated amount of revenue without telling anyone what that is. Then, they can allocate it to their preferred projects which benefit them from a political perspective. (Substantially restricts public input)
 - Only 10% of the CIP money might be available for new projects.



COMMUNITY PLANNING

- *Jim Tatooles*

- **Projects in Development Review Process:**
 - 4 Hotels
 - 2 Assisted Living Facilities
 - 70,000 sq. ft. Office Building
 - 2 Multi-Family Apartment Sites
 - Commercial Retail Shops across from Walmart
 - Lee Health Coconut Point
 - Genova Condos
 - Estero Parkway Upgrades
 - Village has approved a study of engineering so that they will improve the landscaping on 41 from Corkscrew to Coconut Point.
- **2018 Market Watch: SWFL Real Estate Outlook**
 - Statistical study of what's happening in local real estate.
 - Last year, Lee County had a 3/10 of 1% reduction in the number of residential units that were built. Estero and Bonita Springs had 2.3% less growth than the year before. (This is good & shows normal, steady growth.)
 - Land is being purchased for future growth by all of the big home builders in the surrounding Estero area.
 - Edison Farms was purchased.
 - Big box stores (like Sports Authority in Coconut Point) are going out of business.



FINANCIAL REPORT

- *Bob Lienesch*

- \$350 of Residential Community Dues paid in February. Collected most of the dues for 2018 last year.
- Almost all communities are now paid except for 4 (2 of those 4 are in process, the other 2 we're having trouble contacting).
- Expenses typically run about \$1,000/mo (mostly Communications costs).
- For the month, we had an excess of expenses of \$928.
- YTD: We are \$1,431 positive (only because dues are received early in the year and expenses are incurred later in the year).
- Cash at February 28 was \$18,012. This is an adequate amount at this time.
- For more details, you can view the full financial statements at the ECCL website: <http://esterotoday.com/reports/meetings-minutes>