

## ECCL Report: April 2018

*Executive Summary: 170th meeting of the Estero Council of Community Leaders*



The Estero Grande development is being developed with upscale apartments and various amenities. There will also be four commercial properties outside of the gates, including a Starbucks with outdoor seating. The EOC is looking for 40 volunteers to give back to Estero students by serving as Junior Achievement Ambassadors. Lee Health submitted their CON application and received over 450 letters of support from the community. The Village of Estero and the Lee County School District are

working together to create a multi-faceted program to help augment and improve Estero schools' current facilities and services. The public is encouraged to attend the upcoming Old Corkscrew Plantation Mine Rezoning Application Hearing on April 24, 2018.

The next ECCL meeting will be Friday, May 11, 2018 at 10:00 am at Estero Community Park.

### VILLAGE REPORT

- Councilmember *Katy Errington*

- The Estero Grande development will consist of **198 upscale apartments** (possibly the most expensive apartments in Estero). It is located on Highway 41 across from Estero Parkway. Land clearing has commenced. A 3-bedroom apartment will rent for \$2,800/mo. The gated community will include a small clubhouse with an office, coffee shop, fitness center, swimming pool, and bocce court.
- The development will have commercial properties outside of the gated community. In September, there will be a **Starbucks** with outdoor seating.
- One major concern is **storm water management**.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & FEEDBACK

- The ECCL recognizes and thanks **Phil Douglas** for his years of service to the ECCL and Estero. Phil has left his role as the delegate for Lighthouse Bay and previously spent 10 years as the ECCL's Environmental Director.
- There will now be a **feedback period** at each meeting for member representatives to voice issues and problems in and around their communities.
- Suggestion: With all the new apartments and hotels in the area, ECCL should have an Apartments & Hotels membership category.

- Residents are concerned with the truck traffic on Corkscrew Road. A primary complaint is about exiting from all the south side communities going west.
- Lisa from Bella Terra expressed concern about the aesthetics and cleanliness of Corkscrew Road. Another resident said Corkscrew Road needs to be six lanes.

## ECONOMIC OUTREACH COUNCIL (EOC)

- *Jim Shields*

- **2018/2019 Initiative partners:**
  1. Junior Achievement
  2. FGCU's Institute for Entrepreneurship
  3. Lee County Schools
- Focus is on tapping into the need to **Give Back**.
- The Village works closely with the Lee School District to find out how they can help Estero schools and assist with resources they need.
- Underneath that partnership, the Village invited the ECCL to bring the Junior Achievement programs to Estero students.
- **Junior Achievement: 3 Points of Focus**
  1. Financial Literacy
  2. Work Readiness
  3. Entrepreneurship
- **Junior Achievement: How We Do It...**
  - Partnering with Estero schools, grades K-12
  - All JA Programs are taught and conducted by JA Ambassadors
  - Supported by training, tools, and JA-crafted lessons
- **Junior Achievement Progress: "2 – 5 – 8 – Graduate" Program**
  - Recruiting & training JA Ambassadors
  - JA will certify Ambassadors
  - JA will schedule classes & link Ambassadors with teachers
  - JA Lesson Plans include post-evaluation process & feedback
  - Program begins in the Fall
- **How You Can Help: We Need 40 JA Ambassadors**
  - **Invite us into your communities.** Help us secure access and we will present the opportunity and value of the JA program to your neighbors.
  - **Become a vocal advocate of JA in your community.** The JA Ambassador experience is rewarding & gratifying, allowing you to appreciate the impact you are making on the children of Estero.
- Find out how to get involved with Junior Achievement at the ECCL's website: <http://esterotoday.com/junior-achievement-program-seeking-volunteers>
- Learn more about the EOC at the ECCL's website: <http://esterotoday.com/estero-economic-excellence-outreach-council>



## COMMUNITY PLANNING

- *Jim Tatooles*

- Community is currently dealing with the impact of Hurricane Irma and how it affected development and other projects.
- Planning & Zoning Board is discussing the proposed change of a **right-of-way for the Arcos Executive Center** to help with drainage for the office building.
- There is a **hotel proposed in front of the Rapallo community**. During Irma, the streets were flooded and people were not able to drive. As a result, people are now concerned how the proposed nearby hotel will affect water flow.
- Chase Bank is proposing a **3,700 square foot bank building** with one drive-thru in front of Miromar Outlets by Ben Hill Griffin Pkwy.
- The Village of Estero **rejected an emergency** facility for the NCH hospital system. Now, NCH is building the emergency center across from the entrance into the hospital location on Hwy 41 in the City of Bonita Springs.
- One of the hotels that came up for approval was continued by the council to a later meeting pending more information.



## LEE HEALTH

- Lee Health Reps *Suzanne Bradach & Alex Greenwood*

- On Wednesday, April 11, **Lee Health filed its application** for a Certificate of Need (CON) for an 82-bed hospital in Coconut Point in the same CON review cycle as Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) applied for a CON for a hospital in Estero.
- **Lee Health Hospital CON Highlights**
  - **Population growth in the service area.** Total year-round population forecast to grow over 9% in the next 5 years and 18% growth for seniors. 39% of that growth will be at least 65 years of age or older.
  - **Proposed location will reduce travel time to the nearest hospitals**, making it easier, especially for the older population.
  - Community wants a hospital – letters of support. Lee Health was able to include **449 letters of support** in their application, not including the letters that were sent directly to the state.
  - **Represents a redistribution of beds** – Lee Health will delicense 82 beds elsewhere in Lee County.
  - Lee Health has **planned for a hospital** in Coconut Point for over 12 years.
  - HCA abandoned Lee County in 2006.
- **Lee Health Hospital – Programs & Services**
  - Focus on Adult Services
  - Center on Aging and Health – Comprehensive Senior Care Program

- Geriatric Medicine
- Senior Care Choices – Life Care Management Program
- Cognitive Health Center – Dementia and Behavioral Health
- Chronic Care Management
- “Senior-Friendly” Emergency Department
- Inpatient Geriatric Rehab Support
- **Lee Health Hospital Patient Tower Details:**
  - 70 Medical Surgical Beds
  - 12 Intensive/Cardiac Care Beds
  - 20 Observation Beds (not considered inpatient)
  - 3 Additional Operating Suites
  - 1 Intraoperative Cath Lab
  - Expanded Diagnostic & Support
  - Lobby, Waiting, & Admission Areas
- **Hospital Details:**
  - **No** Parking Garage – there’s enough land for surface area parking.
  - **5 Stories (shown in above photo):**
    1. Lobby, Admissions, Pre-Admission Testing, & Cafeteria
    2. Surgery, ICU, CCU, & Additional Support
    3. Observation Beds
    4. Patient Beds
  - Emergency Care is in Separate, Attached Building
- If all goes according to schedule, the hospital should be completed by **2023**.
- Lee Health has acquired **43 acres of land** on the NW corner of Hwy 41 & Coconut Rd:
  - Lee Health has engaged Cushman & Wakefield to be its land use/community engagement planning advisory company.
  - The study is expected to take another 3-4 months.
  - Phase I will wrap up at the end of May. Phase I is focusing on data analysis, such as demographics, services currently provided, coordination of health care in the community, and more.
  - Phase II will involve small group meetings that will include a cross-section of the community.
  - From there, Lee Health will take some time (months) to create a high-level vision that they will bring back to the community.
  - After Phase 1 is completed, Lee Health will present the community with an overview of the data they have collected and analyzed.



## JOINT EDUCATIONAL ADVOCACY TASK FORCE

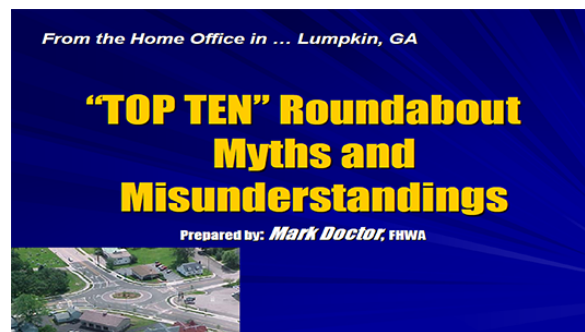
- School Board Mem. *Christine Patricca* & Councilmember *Nick Batos*

- A partnership has been developed between **the Village of Estero and the School District of Lee County** that is the first of its kind. It has been under development for about a year.
- The hope is to create a program will help improve Estero schools. It will involve everyone in Estero: the city, the school district, school faculty, parents, residents, and the business community.
- It will be a **multi-faceted program** covering many areas, including tutoring and mentoring. The program is meant to **augment and improve** the School District's facilities and services – not replace them.
- The program will also **help students beyond graduation**. For example, offering a culinary program and partnering with the hospital for job opportunities.
- The program needs communities to work with them and come together to help identify needs and offer services to the program.
- The program also seeks to develop **career academies** and local businesses that will partner with the schools to offer valuable work experience through **internships**.
- The Lee School District is working to **improve school choice** by offering equity in all their K-5 school programs. This will help to move to proximity-based school assignments (giving parents less, but better school options) and will save the county \$12 million in transportation costs. This should be implemented by the 2019-2020 school year.
- Councilor Batos encourages residents to vote “yes” on a half-cent increase in sales tax in November so the schools will have the capital funds to build the facilities needed to serve the area's growing student population.

## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- *Bob King*

- **Top 10 Myths About Roundabouts:**
  1. Roundabouts and traffic circles are the same thing.
    - Roundabouts are smaller, designed for slower entry/exit, offer yield control, and facilitate safer pedestrian crossings.
  2. Roundabouts cause more crashes.
    - Studies show that modern roundabouts reduce motor vehicle crashes.
    - Studies of intersections in US that were converted from stop signs or traffic lights to roundabouts reduced total crashes by 39%, serious crashes by 76%, and fatal or incapacitating injuries by 89%.
    - Roundabouts are safer because they reduce the number of potential points of conflict and they reduce vehicle speeds.





3. The public will never accept roundabouts.
  - Public attitude toward roundabouts quickly changes and becomes more positive after construction.
4. Roundabouts cost more.
  - Actual costs depend on site-specific conditions.
  - Initial construction cost of a roundabout is comparable to the initial cost of a signal. A “life cycle” cost shows that roundabouts don’t require equipment maintenance and are therefore less expensive over time.
5. Roundabouts have less capacity than signalized intersections.
  - Roundabouts help traffic flow as they typically have less delay time than a signal- or stop-controlled intersection.
  - They are designed to accommodate the proper demand volumes.
6. Fire trucks and other large vehicles can’t make it through a roundabout.
  - A well-designed modern roundabout includes a “truck apron” that allows larger vehicles to navigate the roundabout.
7. Roundabouts are not good for pedestrians and bicyclists.
  - Roundabouts are very pedestrian-friendly. The splitter islands allow pedestrians to only focus on one direction of traffic at a time and the crosswalks are placed one full car-length back from yield line to avoid crossing in front of cars that are trying to find their gap in the traffic.
8. Roundabouts aren’t good for older drivers.
  - Roundabouts offer lower speeds, a forgiving environment, and uncomplicated situations with simple decision-making. Older drivers have more time to make the right response and judging gaps is easy.
  - Mistakes are not lethal – slow speeds mean low energy crashes.
9. Roundabouts are bad for the nearby businesses.
  - Most business owners agree that slower speeds and safer travel enhance business along the corridor.
  - Some “blighted” communities have experienced economic revitalization following roundabout projects.
10. The roundabout center island is a great place to put a park, monument, or fountain.
  - Good roundabout landscaping is more conspicuous, minimizes road hazards, maintains adequate sight distance, discourages pedestrian traffic through the central island, and improves area aesthetics.
- View the full “Top 10 Roundabout Myths & Misunderstandings” presentation here: [https://www.dropbox.com/s/stsnxghquv1dn6d/eccl\\_roundabout\\_myths\\_presentation.pptx?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/stsnxghquv1dn6d/eccl_roundabout_myths_presentation.pptx?dl=0)
- **AIM Traffic Study: The following study elements have not yet been completed and reviewed with the public...**
  - **Task 6** – Transportation Improvements Cost Estimates (Meetings with AIM to Modify Initial Findings)
  - **Task 7** – Environmental Support
  - **Task 8** – Proportional Share Analysis

### Task 9 – Public Involvement

County Launches New Corkscrew Road Improvement Study Web Page:

1. Sign Up for Updates
  2. Newsletters
  3. Meetings
- *The next Transportation Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, April 19 at 9:00am at Fine Mark Bank.*
  - Learn more about Estero transportation issues at the ECCL website:  
<http://esterotoday.com/estero-news/transportation>

## TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

- *Don Eslick*

- **Getting the Traffic Issues on County Roads Funded:**
  - For impact fees that finance Transportation, Schools, & Park capital needs: County Commissioners once again bowed to the Development / Home Builder Coalition.
  - Commissioners lengthened the deadline for their next impact fee decision from 3 to 5 years.
- **Funded & Unfunded County Road Projects as of the County's current Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) adopted in 2017:**
  - 15 projects received some funding during the next 10 years.
  - 15 more, including Corkscrew Road, were prioritized but unfunded.
- **Public Participation Opportunities:**
  - 2018 Lee County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Workshops:  
May 1, June 5, June 19, & August 21  
1:30pm, Administrative East Building  
2201 Second Street, Fort Myers
  - Testimony must be presented during the Board's regular meeting each day at 9:30am.
  - Final Budget Hearings: September 4 & 18



## HEALTH COMMITTEE

- *Lowell Gerson*

- Health Committee has dedicated itself to two things: **Awareness & Advocacy.**
- At their next meeting, they will be discussing Lee Health Coconut Point staffing and staffing needs with Lee Health.

- *The next Steering Committee Meeting will be Friday, May 18 at 2:30pm at the Enrichment Center in the Commons Club at The Brooks.*
- 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*

- The public is encouraged to attend any and all hearings if we want to make Estero's voices heard.
- **Environmental Report:**
  - Old Corkscrew Plantation Mine Rezoning Application  
Zoning Examiner Hearings: Held on March 27, March 28, and April 4  
**NEXT -> Tuesday, April 24 – Please Come**
  - Verdana Rezoning Hearing: Thursday, April 12
  - Troyer Brothers Mine Postponement: CPA Deadline – December 3, 2018
- *The next Environmental Committee Meeting will be on Friday, April 20 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>

## FINANCIAL REPORT

- *Bob Lienesch*

- The final 3 communities paid their dues.
- The ECCL broke even during the current month, is a little bit ahead through May, and is going to be negative the rest of the year since there are no more dues coming in (as planned).
- For more details, you can view the full financial statements at the ECCL website:  
<http://esterotoday.com/reports/meetings-minutes>



Watch the whole April 13th meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MIScSy7zHA>