

**From:** [Theodore Kleamenakis](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)  
**Subject:** Cielo Preliminary Plat Amendment  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 12:35:17 AM

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Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to oppose the proposed Publix in the Cielo Plat. This is my second time opposing a development that intrudes upon a neighborhood.

I moved here 3 years ago because my home town of Baton Rouge, Louisiana became crime ridden all over. and the traffic and car jacking from criminals was becoming too much.

My husband and I both retired from the State of Louisiana. We really did not want to leave our beautiful home, but we felt we had no choice. I have two young grandchildren and my son-in-law insisted we move and they moved to Colorado. I chose Venice because I brought my daughter for an interview at New College and I thought Sarasota was the most beautiful city I had ever seen. My daughter received a scholarship from FSU and graduated.

Our dog needed medical help for a brain tumor in 2018 and LSU did not have the equipment to eradicate his brain tumor. I researched and found out the University of Florida had a special machine to pattern the tumor and send a high dose only to the tumor and eradicate it. My veterinarian sent all the tests and we brought our dog for treatment. We stayed 5 days and the treatment was successful. We decided to visit Sarasota and Venice. Sarasota now has 4 lane streets and was over crowded. We came to Venice and bought a home in Watercrest near the round-about on Jacaranda. I thought it was a greenway to be preserved until the notice of the Hyundai Dealership was building in front of my neighborhood. When I spoke all the council men had their heads down and the dealership went up and the Tractor Supply etc. Our best friends moved back to Massachusetts.

We found a Neal Signature Development 1.2 miles down Jacaranda, and decided to build a home in this Neal development. I had prayed the farmers would not be selling their land as I am now 70 soon to be 71 years old. I had hoped commercial property and townhomes would not be developed as well as another Publix. I love Publix and I think the one on Laurel and the one on Jacaranda can handle the needs of future customers.

Furthermore the more people that come in the more schools, police and crime will increase in the lovely City of Venice. I want to live my remaining years as safely as possible and independent.

I have noticed more cars cutting in front of me, increased wrecks and alcohol being a leading cause of the wrecks. Recently a young girl was killed riding her bike home from school. This will continue as I have lived in other small towns that become too crowded and too much crime. I guess people get paid and persuaded just like our officials leading our country. Some growth is necessary, but I think there needs to be some thought about how you want this to continue. I also loved reading all the happy news, but the sad news seems to be increasing.

Furthermore I was impressed that Venice was developed for the purpose for Chicago Railroad Retirees. I really think that is the main purpose and attraction of Venice. I have already experienced being in ICU and I had superior care. Perhaps Trolley cars could be developed or a contract with Uber. I just think housing sprawl and more Publix should be carefully considered. I was hoping the traffic would not turn into big city hunt and park and inevitable more accidents.

Thank you and please carefully consider the consequences for this beautiful city and the elderly that live here and made it their home.

Sincerely,

Sharon Kleamenakis

Sent from my iPhone