

From: [Jackie Patterson](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Laurel RD shopping center
Date: Friday, May 5, 2023 2:35:07 PM

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The Milano PUD did not allow commercial [development.to](#) come in to ruin the small patch of nature existing. I am vehemently opposed to this. Animals and bird life need a small patch of earth that is not covered in asphalt. I feel sorry for the homeowners in Milano. Please have the courage to disallow this horror. We have large food stores within 2 1/2 miles in both directions. Don't need more. Thank you in advance. Jacqueline Patterson, 145 Rimini Way, N.Venice.

From: [Carol Wiggins](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Fw: Communicating with our elected officials
Date: Friday, May 5, 2023 8:36:26 AM

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Do not approve new development!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Carol Wiggins" <cwiggins_99@yahoo.com>
To: "North Venice Neighborhood Alliance" <nvnalliance@nvnalliance.com>
Sent: Fri, May 5, 2023 at 8:29 AM
Subject: Re: Communicating with our elected officials

I will contact council....traffic turning left on to Laurel rd from knights trail between the two gas stations seems to have increased and with the Lorraine extension it will add more cars taking that new route. I have been a resident at VGR for 19 years and , like many older residents, may have trouble negotiating confusing exit and entry to my home.

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On Thu, May 4, 2023 at 2:11 PM, North Venice Neighborhood Alliance <nvnalliance@nvnalliance.com> wrote:

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The May 23 City Council hearing is around the corner...let our elected officials know how you feel about the potential commercial

development!

Though we prevailed at the Planning Commission with a recommendation the City deny Neal's application to build a shopping center at the corner of Laurel and Jacaranda, the final decision rests with the City Council.

Between now and the Council hearing on Tuesday, May 23, we need you to email members of the City Council to let them know you oppose the commercial and why.

The attorney and planning consultant representing NVNA and the Venetian POA will speak to the legal issues at that hearing. Our attorney, Dan Lobeck, strongly urges that as residents, we speak about our personal knowledge and opinions on the impact a commercial development will have on our everyday lives: we are the experts on where we live, and his legal brief cannot replace that. The Council members are our elected officials, and they need to hear about what matters to us about where we live.

Examples of possible topics to discuss in your letter include the following:

- There will be increased traffic, noise and lights from large delivery trucks making deliveries at all hours of the day and night. Parking lot lights will overtake your nighttime view. How is that going to affect your quality of life?
- Neal's new traffic study reveals plans for a 5,000 square-foot fast-food restaurant with a drive-through window. Though his original application and neighborhood meetings referenced a restaurant, he never mentioned a fast-food restaurant, much less with a drive-through. It was described multiple times as an "eat-in restaurant". How will the noise, traffic, sounds, smells and trash from this impact our lives? What do you think its hours are going to be?
- Safety is at the forefront given the increased traffic (which Neal no longer claims will be reduced 27% in his latest study). Whether driving, biking or on foot, are you going to feel safe trying to get out onto Jacaranda or Laurel, or simply just trying to cross those roads? How about the children in the neighborhoods? Neal has submitted a traffic plan with seven lanes of traffic in front of the entrance to the VGRC...**seven lanes!** Are you or your elderly neighbor going to be able to safely negotiate that by any means at all?

- According to Neal, the commercial center will serve at least 7,000 homes. It is one thing to build those homes, but to provide a magnet for them – clearly contrary to the City's land use regulations -- means many more people drawn to the immediate area. And with that comes an increased risk of crime, including theft and vandalism.
- What about the trash that a shopping center creates including food waste? Mice, rats and raccoons will inevitably be attracted to the dumpsters in back.
- For the people in Cielo: when you were contemplating building a home for yourself and your family, many of you were given marketing material that showed this corner as a preserve. The 2017 Milano PUD Binding Master Plan and the Cielo final plat of 2019 identified this land as open space and stated there would be no commercial in the Milano PUD. Now after nearly all the lots in the Milano PUD have been sold, the developer who made those representations announces that he wants concrete and asphalt at that location, and that it's all to your benefit. Is that what they call a bait and switch?
- Wildlife is another topic that should be discussed. No more shore birds around and in the pond and wetlands, and no more perching birds in the bushes and trees. In fact, no more pond, wetlands or bushes and trees.
- Neal claims this commercial center is needed. Don't we already have plenty of convenient shopping nearby in either direction? The marketing material given to prospective Cielo buyers said exactly that. But that was when Neal was trying to sell homes. Do you want a degradation in your quality of life in exchange for two minutes less in your car? Where you live matters, not where you shop.
- It is assumed that most of you purchased your homes because of what the neighborhood was and what you expected it would continue to be. You wanted a safe place to raise your family or retire. Your expectations, which were reasonable, were not that your quiet, safe, beautiful residential neighborhood would someday include a busy commercial center. Tell the city council that.
- Tell the members of the city council how you feel about the proposed shopping center. In your letter be sure to let them know what community you live in. Please, people in Willow Chase, Milano, Cielo and Aria, we need your voices and your letters.

We should not wait until the last minute to get letters out in order for the Council to have time to read them. So, the earlier the better. Speak from the heart, but please be polite and respectful. The names and email addresses for the members of council are below along with the postal address.

The City Council hearing is on Tuesday, May 23 at 9:00AM. If you can be there in person, we will be very grateful. Having folks there in blue shirts helps our elected officials understand the size and commitment of our group. We will have more details about attending the Council hearing next week in a reminder email blast.

Nick Pachota (Mayor): npachota@venicefl.gov

Jim Boldt: jbaldt@venicefl.gov

Mitzie Fiedler: mfiedler@venicefl.gov

Rachel Frank: rfrank@venicefl.gov

Rick Howard: rhoward@venicefl.gov

Dick Longo: rlongo@venicefl.gov

Helen Moore: hmoore@venicefl.gov

If you prefer, there is a central email box for the Council at:

citycouncil@venicefl.gov

The mailing address is: 401 West Venice Avenue, Venice FL 34285

Thanks very much for your help and your attention.

With very best regards,

North Venice Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

The North Venice Neighborhood Alliance Inc. (NVNA) was established in April 2022 by concerned residents representing the interests of Laurel Rd East and Jacaranda Extension North to ensure responsible development within and surrounding our residential communities. NVNA is a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida and operates as a 501(c)(4) under the Internal Revenue Code.



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You are receiving this email because you opted in via email notification or signed our petition.

Our mailing address is:
North Venice Neighborhood Alliance
246 Montelluna Dr
North Venice, FL 34275-6616

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From: [anthony demeo](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: The change in zoning from residential/wetlands reserve on the corner of Laurel in Jacaranda in North a Venice
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 10:06:07 PM

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As a full-time resident of north venice for seven years, I live across the street from the proposed shopping center Pat Neals is trying to build on natural wetlands. I feel that his proposed zoning change is not a good fit with the profile of the area ,for a number of reasons one is a natural wetlands, which is vital to the well-being and drainage in for surrounding homes. It also is home to a lot of endangered species of birds, water, fowl turtles butterflies and should be preserved. It also ask as a buffer in case of flooding because the water has someplace naturally to go and Fed our aqua filter . The noise and, pollution generated by this shopping center would greatly destroy the well-being the surrounding residential areas by creating undo traffic and lighting which would inhibit the natural nighttime sky that we will enjoy here crime and and litter. We also do not need a fast food restaurant directly across the street from us because this neighbor does not want it, there is plenty commercial and fast food restaurants to the west of us, and to the south of us within a short driving distance. this whole project does not fit with the profile of the neighborhood, and over 74% of the venetian residence agree that this is not a good fit for the neighborhood. Also the people of curling, Milano and Willow Chase feel the same way. Please go with what the planning commission has voted and deny this zoning change. Also, when Pat Neil decided to build Milano pod, he agreed that no entrances would be directly across the street from the Venetian golf and river club, this T intersection will cause undo headaches and possibly accidents, for there is no way to do a proper traffic control at that intersection being such close proximity to the fire Department which needs access in case of emergencies when I'm trying to say is please use good judgment and realize this is not a good fit for the neighborhood this proposed zoning change is not going to enhance property, values, but will create unnecessary and dangerous condition to the area, and property value changes will be in the negative and never will be able to be changed back once you destroy the quiet, peace fall neighborhood that we have come enjoy . We have a lot of aging residents in the area and I truly believe that is dangerous intersection that you be creating by allowing this project to move forward will definitely cause people in my development, a lot of grief, and possible injury And somebody's life will be changed forever. Thank you for your consideration on this matter please follow the law and vote respectfully Anthony DeMeo 249mestre Pl. North Venice, FL 34275.

[Sent from Yahoo for iPhone](#)

From: [Chuck & Carol](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Neal proposal for Laurel and Jacaranda
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 3:26:28 PM

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I live in Venetian Golf and River Club. By now you may have heard of our recent professional poll about WE think of the Neal proposal. 74% of the residents here voted "NO".

If this was a vote for a politician, it would make headlines, because of the margin!!!

I and my neighbors are asking that you follow the law and preserve our way of life here! WE simply do NOT want the noise, lights and traffic here. Mr. Neal should adhere to zoning regulations as we must do.

Thank you!

Chuck and Carol Naylor, 210 Treviso CT.

From: [Jeff Dore](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Pat Neal
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 3:26:04 PM

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As a resident of Venetian Golf and River Club I would like you vote against the proposal for a shopping center at the corner of Laurel Rd and Jacaranda. This area has already been overbuilt by Mr. Neal and it seems that he receives everything he wants. After literally raping and pillaging this neighborhood he will just move onto another. I will vote for my Venice elected officials according to their actions on this matter.

Jeff Dore
314 Mestre Pl
North Venice. Fl 34275

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device
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From: rsegner@aol.com
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Milano PUD Zoning Map Amendment 22-38RZ
Date: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 12:52:27 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

We are writing you to express our opposition to Milano PUD Zoning Map Amendment 22-38RZ. We moved to this area because of its beauty and rural atmosphere. It was the perfect location for us, a residential community close to the Myakka river with no nearby commercial intrusion. We love this area and strive to keep our community beautiful. In fact, several of you who live in nearby neighborhoods may see us picking up litter on Jacaranda Blvd and on Border Road. We do this at least six times a week.

During each "litter walk", we easily collect 2 large bags of litter. Much of it is litter from vehicles travelling the roads and construction debris. We pick up an extraordinary amount of trash at the corner of Jacaranda and Laurel Road; it seems to accumulate as rapidly as we pick it up. Nevertheless, it gives us a sense of pride to give back to our community and our neighbors greatly appreciate our efforts. Performing our civic duty also comes with a degree of risk, as we are occasionally exposed to speeding vehicles and reckless drivers. In fact, one of them recently drove off the road and collided with and destroyed a wall in Milano. This occurred during daytime hours. We shudder at the thought of what could have happened if we were out walking or cycling at that time. Rezoning this property for commercial use and the resultant commercial development and traffic is incompatible with this neighborhood and places its residents, both human and wildlife, as well as our environment, at great risk.

Approval of this re-zoning application will be demoralizing and will negatively impact our quality of life. It will be a disaster which will exponentially increase the amount of litter and traffic and compromise the personal safety of the residents who live here. Imagine a Publix bag floating down the Myakka River...this is inevitable. The applicant states that "where you live matters" in his advertising material. It certainly matters to us, which is why we spend our time keeping it beautiful. It will be very hard for us to continue our efforts if this project proceeds. Most of the residents in this area are against this amendment...and it is a certainty that we will not see the applicant who will benefit most walking besides us picking up litter.

We take pride in our efforts, and we are glad to donate our time to this wonderful community. Rezoning this area for commercial use is a detriment to the community and will forever spoil the natural beauty that remains. As city leaders, you have a duty to protect the residents and the environment from this unnecessary and incompatible amendment. Please do the right thing and deny this application.

Sincerely,

Becky and Mark Segner
Milano Development

From: [Mark Plantz](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Meeting scheduled for May 23
Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 8:55:48 AM

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Good morning Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

We are residents in the Milano neighborhood and ask you to follow the recommendation of the planning commission as well as the city attorney and deny Mr. Neal's proposed shopping center. Also, to listen to the residents, clearly we do not want this in our backyard. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy and Mark Plantz
284 Cassano Drive
Nokomis