

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

From: [Peggy Pisani](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Neal's projected mall on Laurel and Jacaranda
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 4:03:25 PM

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Dear City Council members:

I am writing to emphatically ask you to deny Pat Neal's request for the above.

I have resided in Milano community for 6 years, the first phase he built here.

He promised he would not touch the preserves on the corner of Laurel and Jacaranda. This was several times he promised this as I remember going through the whole Milano PUD separations. He said he would only be building residential in Aria and Cielo. While they are residential the preserves next to Cielo were promised to stay green space.

This horrific change would mean my quality of life is greatly being diminished living in Venice, Fl. Also in our documents he promises to keep all residential. Shopping mall is not residential and we don't need one. We have 2 Publix within a 2 area mile of us and a small shopping center going in on the corner of Knights Trail!

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Margaret Pisani
311 Carlino Drive
Nokomis, Fl 34275

PS. The city of Nokomis is another crow in my side! We live in Venice and pay taxes and water in Venice. We vote in Venice!
Why is our mailing address Nokomis!

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: 146bella@gmail.com
To: [City Council](#); [Nicholas Pachota](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: May 23rd
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 2:35:06 PM

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Hello Mayor Pachota and council members,

I am writing in great opposition to Pat Neal's request of rezoning. My husband and I live in the Venetian Golf and River Club. I moved to Sarasota from Destin Fl to manage Pat Neals new home communities in the Sarasota area. I worked with Pat and his land team daily and know them to be a very smart group of developers. This time however he and his team are very late in their request. This request should have been determined back in 2015 in the infancy stages of Milano. What he is proposing is an after thought and sadly he has sold many homeowners/voters the dream of a preserve which could become a concrete box. It is a complete unnecessary disruption of our quality of life.

You will hear from homeowners/voters from the Venetian, Milano, Aria, Cielo and Willow Springs on May 23rd in opposition to Neals request. We are so very hopeful you will do the right thing just as planning commission did. A concrete box is not needed nor is it compatible to the surrounding area.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Karl and Debbie Gericke
146 Bella Vista Terrace
North Venice, Fl 34275**

From: [John Moeckel](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Edward Lavallee](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: Neal Shopping Center in North Venice, Petition No. 22-38RZ John Moeckel
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 6:59:00 AM
Attachments: [5-23-23 Laurel Rd Shopping Center City Council.docx](#)

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Dear mayor and city council,

Please see my comments in the attachment below about the Neal commercial shopping center in North Venice.

I encourage you to vote for the shopping center as I believe it is needed and warranted.

Best,

John Moeckel

May 1, 2023

**To: Mayor Nick Pachota,
Jim Boldt,
Mitzie Fielder,
Rachael Frank,
Rick Howard,
Dick Longo,
Helen Moore.**

**From: John Moeckel
185 Treviso Ct
North Venice, Florida 34275**

Subject: Neal Commercial Project on East Laurel Road, Petition No. 22-38RZ

I am writing to express the reasons that I support the Neal commercial shopping center at Laurel Road and Jacaranda Blvd. and to point out some of the flaws in the opposition's arguments.

The growth in North Venice is strong, representing thousands of new homes, apartments, and businesses. Along with this growth is the arterial corridor roadway system that will service the area east of I-75. This provides the missing link from Lorraine Road, to Knights Trail to Laurel Road continuing to Jacaranda Blvd. The 681 I-75 interchange will be rebuilt to a fully functioning interchange. All of this will become a major arterial roadway system and evacuation route. This growth, as well as the new hospital creates the need for more neighborhood commercial businesses, especially a grocery store.

Publix studies the demographics of an area before they decide to build one of their stores and it must show that there is a strong need for a store and the need for that store is on the corner of Laurel Road and Jacaranda Blvd. To my knowledge, Publix has only closed 2 stores in its 92-year history.

This shopping center will be sized to support our local neighborhood on a small footprint of less than 11 acres. It is not regional. Publix has built hundreds of neighborhood shopping centers here in Florida, and they fit in extremely well in

residential communities. Their nearby location will substantially reduce car expense, travel time, and crosstown traffic. Publix has always been diligent in working with communities to mitigate any issues with surrounding residential communities, and it is the most sought-after grocery store.

The Nolan Plan also supports commercial properties in residential communities.

The opposition to this project is the North Venice Neighborhood Association (NVNA) which has provided several misleading points in both their petition and emails to residents, causing an unwarranted negative view of this project by many. The Venetian Master Association has also joined them in writing a letter of opposition.

The inaccuracies and exaggerations are being corrected by a group of concerned residents, and now other residents who were against the shopping center are now for it. The biggest issue is the traffic at our main entrance, Veneto Blvd. It will be a huge problem if a traffic light system is not installed as part of the Laurel Road project.

There is real fear that residents in favor of the shopping center may be ostracized, in-fact they are and many are afraid to speak up. There have been serious threats and one that has been turned over to the Venice Police Department.

The proposed Publix shopping center is supported by many Venetian Golf and River Club residents and many other residents in North Venice.

Mr. Neal has built thousands of homes in beautiful communities, and given the opportunity he will work closely with residents on any issues that arise. As of this time Mr. Neal has been given NO opportunity, to my knowledge, by the NVNA to address any issues that they have with this project.

Another positive point is that this Publix will create over 150 new local jobs, not counting the new jobs from the other commercial entities.

Mr. Neal made his application under the previous LDR's and Comp Plan. I believe there is sufficient evidence and precedent that his application should be approved. Over the years, other commercial centers have been approved that served residents outside their PUD's under those same LDR's and Comp Plan.

Thank you,

John Moeckel

If you choose, please read further to see my opinion on the NVNA Petition and one of their many emails. All my comments are in bold and underlined. It is no wonder that many residents are upset, as the mis-leading information has had an extremely negative affect on their view points.

North Venice Neighborhood Alliance
Join us to
Stop Commercial Development in the Milano PUD!

The North Venice Neighborhood Alliance (NVNA) represents residents of all neighborhoods opposed to the commercial development proposed by Neal.

We don't need another Shopping Center!
There are already three Publix within a 4-mile radius!

Publix has been in business for 92 years and to my knowledge only closed 2 stores because of locations. They are experts in determining where to build and have the demographics to prove it. Publix has built hundreds of neighborhood shopping centers in residential areas and this one is no different and yes we need this shopping center.

What will a shopping center do to our immediate area?

- Destroys nearly 12 acres of open space and wetlands to build a Regional Shopping Center anchored by a 47,240 sq. ft. PUBLIX.
-
-
- There was a complete environmental study done on this property by Kimberly Horn dated June 2022. The wetland area has been determined to be of very low quality and will continue to degrade. VGRC has over 50% of open and wetlands areas and the less than 11 acres for the shopping center is less than 1 percent of all land in North Venice. All other communities in North Venice also have over 50% open space. This 11-acre shopping center will have extremely low impact on local wildlife.
-
- Turns our quiet residential part of Venice into an area of characterless urban sprawl. Urban Sprawl is uncontrolled growth in a town or city and this area should not be defined as urban sprawl as it is controlled. In fact, one of the major premises of the John Nolen plan was to have commercial services as a part of residential neighborhoods.
- A drastic increase in traffic accidents and delays, hampering emergency services. A drastic increase in accidents and delays has not been proven and unlikely if the shopping center is built. More scare tactics. Because of the road system becoming the east side arterial road system for the county there will be more traffic. Our area is a major growth area and is controlled by LDR's and the comprehensive plan. Emergency services will not be hampered any more than any other local areas. The addition of 2 more lanes to Laurel Road should help emergency services.
- Hampering our entry and exit from the community. Not if a traffic light system is installed at our main entrance. This is crucially important as we will have a huge safety issue if we don't have a traffic light system.
- After-hours commercial deliveries and 24-hour lighting will impact our quality of life in numerous ways. Night time deliveries can and would be controlled to not impact our community. Within our community we have over 1,250 lighted mailboxes and over a hundred street lights that all shine out and up all night long. The shopping center LED lights will be low in number and all shine down, not out and up. They will also be turned down to 30% after the stores close. Therefore, the

light footprint will be a tiny fraction of what our community puts out. I don't see any quality of life issues with this.

-
- The Milano Master Plan approved by the City, and provided to Milano home buyers, clearly stated there would be NO Commercial Development. **Market conditions change and variances have been approved and will continue to be approved.**
- A Regional Shopping Center is not a permitted use in a residential Planned Unit Development (PUD) and will invite substantial traffic from outside the immediate area. **The only reason this shopping center is called regional is because of the wording in the LDRS as meaning outside the boundaries of the PUD. This is being construed as meaning customers from outside the North Venice area will shop here. That is not true. This shopping center will serve only the very local area of the northeast Venice neighborhood. . By contrast the 2 other Publix shopping centers are over 30 acres in size and this shopping center will be 1/3 of that size.**

How can you help?

- **Venetian residents will receive a survey from the POA on Monday, April 25.** Before you answer the survey, consider whether a Regional Shopping Center is really worth changing our neighborhood forever. **This is not a “regional Shopping Center”. UTC at I-75 and University is a “regional” shopping center This is a neighborhood shopping center.**
- Sign the petition! Over 1,200 people already have: <https://chnq.it/SZ4Y6g4pth> (Web host prompt will ask for donation. Don't donate. This does not benefit NVNA.) **The petition is based on misleading information and in my opinion caused residents to sign a petition that is not factually true. And I understand that the petition has been signed by citizens who do not live on the area, and some out of state. This petition is questionable.**
- Follow us on Facebook (currently still under construction)
- Email us at NVNAlliance@nvncalliance.com

There are other, larger issues at stake than commercial development across from the Venetian: Neal and other developers are currently seeking to change key land development regulations designed to protect us.

First, Neal has NOT yet filed an application to build an estimated 47,000 sq. ft. Publix and an additional 16,000 sq. ft. commercial building, which would house an additional 10+ businesses, on a previously designated 11.8 acre parcel of open space at the corner of Jacaranda Blvd and Laurel Road. This parcel is currently designated open space on the Milano PUD, which encompasses Aria, Milano, and Cielo communities. We believe that Neal is waiting to file his application to amend the Milano PUD, which will remove 11.8 acres of open space and re-designate it for

commercial use, until the Venice City Council enacts new Land Development Regulations (LDR). THE CURRENT LAND USE DOCUMENT WHICH PERTAINS TO PUDs, 86-130, IS STILL IN EFFECT AND IS FAR MORE RESTRICTIVE. Neal likely knows approval of his project would be difficult at best based on this current language.

Neal has sent his application in based on the previous LDR's Land Development Regulations (LDR) is currently in the process of being updated. We have reviewed the proposed LDR changes, and they favor Neal and other developers because it removes many of the previous restrictions and allows any single commercial building in a PUD to be up to 40,000 sq. ft. To give a bit more perspective on the size of such a building, the average Dollar General store is only 8,000 square feet. The updated LDR is set to be presented to the City Council by the Planning Commission on or around 10 May. We are hopeful that the City Council will have public hearings and workshops to allow input from citizens prior to enacting this new Land Development Regulation.

The standard size of a regular Publix is 47,000 square feet which has all departments that shoppers want and need.

An interesting story about the Publix on Bee Ridge Road extension. It is a 28,000 square foot store. When it was approved to be built there residents were against it and didn't want it. After it was built most local residents shop there now. It saves time and car costs as it is quite a trip to the other Publix. Now, the residents want the larger 47,000 square store to replace the smaller one.

NVNA will keep interested residents updated on the timing of the upcoming meetings and how you can help.

NVNA has sought the advice of a local attorney, who agrees there are valid grounds to challenge Neal's proposed project. The more members we have, the stronger the voice. By organizing, we can directly shape the decisions which impact our neighborhoods and force the City Council to listen to residents over developers. Will you join us?

Join us! Simply send an e-mail to NVNAlliance@nvalliance.com and you will be added to the group. Another way to help: PLEASE forward this e-mail to as many of your neighbors as possible. Again, the more people we have supporting this, the more likely we will be successful. Finally, please keep an eye on your e-mail. Once the Planning Commission sends the proposed LDR to the Venice City Council, we will send a more detailed explanation of how these changes directly impact us as homeowners in North Venice. We will also illustrate the talking points that we as citizens need to discuss with our elected Council members. For future reference, e-mails to all Council members and the Mayor are addressed to: citycouncil@venicefl.gov

Don't believe it when people tell you it's pointless to oppose this development. As we continue to form into an organized, cohesive group, our numbers will give us a powerful voice, one that will be heard as we strive to safeguard our community and way of life.

Sincerely,
North Venice Neighborhood Alliance

The North Venice Neighborhood Alliance was established in April 2022 by residents of Laurel Rd East and Jacaranda Extension North to ensure responsible development within and surrounding our residential communities.

Below is an email from the NVNA. Please see my comments see my comments in bold and underlined:

Stop Commercial Development in the Milano PUD

Dear Neighbor,

We understand that Neal has submitted his PUD Amendment Application to the City of Venice on June 14, to build his regional shopping center. **This is not a regional shopping center. It is a "neighborhood shopping center"** This *obscurity* is *inaptly* called "The Village at Laurel and Jacaranda" will consist of 70,240 square feet of commercial uses on 10.42 acres. **Using emotional words, obscenity and inaptly to mislead the residents.** The uses will include a 47,000 sq ft Publix, a restaurant and other retail spaces including an automotive convenience center. **"There will be no gas station"** The automotive convenience center, is a euphemism for a filthy gas station & store. **Using the word filthy is another emotional word to mislead residents.**

Entry to the Publix anchored shopping center will be directly opposite the Venetian Golf & River Club entrance off Laurel Road. The entry to the shopping center will be less than 800 feet from the VGRC gatehouse. A traffic nightmare awaits. **The words "Traffic nightmare" is used a lot, with no traffic study information from this group to support this concept, it is being used to scare people. So, what is their definition of a traffic nightmare? The real traffic nightmare will be travelling to those 2 other Publix stores as the area is going to significantly grow.**

Again, we will have a terrible traffic situation if we don't get a traffic system at our community entrance.

Neal in his two prior Milano PUD applications in 2017 & 2020 represented "NO COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT."

We must organize to stop this obscenity in our community. **They are using the word obscenity again. A neighborhood shopping center is not "extremely offensive."**

How This Impacts Our Community

- **Supermarkets:** We already have 2 Publix within a 3-mile radius. Why do we need another? **Because the demographics and growth support**

another Publix. You know “Real Data”. This is very common as Publix has built neighborhood Publix shopping centers in many residential areas separated by 3 miles from one another.

- **Traffic:** In a recent article, Neal incredulously suggested traffic will be reduced by 27%. We have asked for a copy of the traffic survey. Nothing received to date. **The traffic study was conducted by Stantec and NVNA has shown no proof that the Stantec traffic study regarding the 27% reduced traffic statement is a flaw.**

- **Noise:** Delivery trucks will arrive early in the morning and in the middle of the night. Incessant beeping and running engines will resonate throughout the night. Sound travels, you will hear it. **If there are issues with early deliveries, Publix will review and modify to reduce or eliminate any noise issues. There are no deliveries throughout the night. There will be no incessant beeping and running engines. Another not true scare tactic!**

- **Wetlands & Wildlife:** The current wetlands where iconic Florida birds forage (see above picture) ***The picture they showed was from a different piece of property, another mis-leading statement*** will be plowed under for a parking lot. Neal will be required to make a contribution to a mitigation bank. How will that benefit the wildlife and us? **VGRC has over 50% open space and wetlands as do all the other communities in North Venice. The 11 acres is of very low-quality wetland/wildlife land and it will continue to downgrade. And there are tens of thousands of acres of protected land adjacent to the Myakka River to our east.**

Lighting: The shopping center will require flood and security lighting all night and every night. **VGRC has over 1,250 mailbox lights with over 100 street lights that shine out and up all night long. The shopping center will have state of the art LED down lighting that does not shine outwards. The light footprint of our community is tremendously more than what the shopping center light footprint will be.**

- **Pollutants:** Runoff from asphalt and organophosphates must go somewhere.... Into our surrounding waters and our aquifer. **This area is only 11 acres and will capture any water runoff to prevent run off to surrounding lands. The widening of Laurel Road to 4 lanes will have a far larger impact than this 11 acres on asphalt runoff materials. The same is true of the Jacaranda Extension, which will be modified to 4 lanes.**

- **Safety:** How will residents of the Venetian Golf and River Club, Treviso Grand Apartments and Willow Chase safely make a left turn onto Laurel Road? A traffic light at our main entrance would solve that problem. **The community needs to put forth an effort to convince the County decision makers for a traffic light. I have seen no effort by the NVNA to promote a light.**

- **Road expansion:** In addition to the current widening of Laurel Road to 4 lanes, will other surrounding roads also be impacted? **Have no idea what this means?**

- **Deceived home buyers:** Many home buyers in Aria, Milano and Cielo purchased homes after reviewing the Milano PUD Master Plan's provision **"NO COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT."**

- **Legality:** A retired attorney and a former member of the Greenburgh, NY zoning board has identified several ordinances that are in direct conflict with this proposed zoning amendment.

- **Not Neighborhood in Scale -** Both the City of Venice Comprehensive Plan & PUD standards require commercial development in a PUD to serve the needs of the residents of the PUD and not the surrounding area. **It is impracticable for any developer to build a shopping center that only serves the interior residents of a PUD. It does not financially work and how would you stop residents outside a PUD to shop there? The proposed shopping center will serves the needs of the Northeast Venice neighborhood.**

- **Process:** The first step - All land use petitions are submitted to the Planning & Zoning Division. They are then distributed to the Technical Review Committee (TRC) which is responsible for confirming technical compliance.

TAKE ACTION

- **Sign this Petition** But, DO NOT donate money through this website - the money does not go to NVNA.
- Please send an email to Mr. Roger Clark, who is the City of Venice Director of Zoning and Planning. His office is the first in the approval process. Please let him know how you feel about this. Mr. Clark's email address is: rclark@venicegov.com or at planningcommission@venicegov.com.
- Email a copy of the same letter to the Mayor and City Council. They should be working on behalf of our best interests and what we as the voting public wants, not on the behalf of Neal Communities or Publix. Their email addresses are as follows:

- Ron Feinsod, Mayor, rfeinsod@venicefl.gov
- Mitzie Fiedler, Council Member, mfiedler@venicefl.gov
(Lives in the Venetian Golf & River Club)
- citycouncil@venicefl.gov
- **<https://www.venicegov.com/government/mayor-city-council>**

- Send a letter to the editor of our local newspaper. They can be emailed to:
Sarasota Herald Tribune: editor.letters@heraldtribune.com
Venice Gondolier: ronald.dupont@yoursun.com
- Read, comment and share posts on the North Venice Neighborhood Alliance's Facebook page: **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/258749306377242>**
- Read and comment to Venice Area Citizens for Responsible Development on Facebook. **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VACRD/>**
- NVNA is incurring legal & administrative expenses. Please consider making a contribution to help us fund our operations. All funds are tracked by our Treasurer, who will ensure any unused money can be returned in proportion to amounts donated. Please remit as follows:

Mail check (payable to North Venice Neighborhood Alliance) to:
North Venice Neighborhood Alliance

PO Box 104
Laurel, FL 34272

- Please feel free to send this email out to your neighbors just to ensure its widest dissemination.

We understand that time is a precious commodity and that not everyone can do all of this, but doing just one item above helps. WE CANNOT LET PAT NEAL, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OR CITY COUNCIL MAKE A DECISION WHICH ADVERSELY IMPACTS OUR QUALITY OF LIFE. OUR VOICES MUST BE HEARD!! We appreciate your support in advance and please do not hesitate to email if you have any questions or constructive comments. **This is not a quality-of-life issue and is only hyperbole.**

Warmest regards,

The North Venice Neighborhood Alliance Inc.

Alliance 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. On July 25, 2022, the Alliance organized as a nonprofit corporation in Florida and will operate as a 501(c)(4) under the Internal Revenue Code.

email address:

North Venice Neighborhood Alliance nvnalliance@gmail.com

In my opinion, the NVNA has mis-lead our residents with mis-leading information in the above petition and email. Not many facts, and a whole lot of emotional words to scare residents. Additionally, there has been a

barrage of other mis-leading emails, almost too many to count.

From: [Roger Clark](#)
To: [Kelly Michaels](#)
Cc: [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#)
Subject: FW: Milano PUD Amendment - Concern About Wetlands & Listed Bird Species
Date: Friday, April 28, 2023 1:29:28 PM
Attachments: [threatened-endangered-species.pdf](#)

Additional written communication for the upcoming Milano PUD amendment on May 23rd.

Thanks,

Roger

Roger Clark, AICP
Planning and Zoning Director

401 West Venice Avenue

Venice, FL 34285

Office: 941-882-7432

Cell: 941-468-0081

rclark@venicefl.gov



From: Rick Cordner <rjcordner@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2023 2:21 PM
To: Roger Clark <RClark@venicefl.gov>
Subject: Milano PUD Amendment - Concern About Wetlands & Listed Bird Species

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Hello Mr. Clark

This is Rick Cordner. I live in North Venice and I sit on the Board of The North Venice Neighborhood Alliance. I am a recreational birder and also sit on the Board of the Venice Area Audubon Society. However, I am writing today in my personal capacity. I am concerned that not enough is being done with respect to protection of the wetlands and the listed species of birds that forage there.

Neal's Consultant, Kimley-Horn in response to "OS 1.4.3 Endangered or Threatened Species" stated in part on Nov. 8, 2022

"They have spent countless hours performing field work, and listed species surveys.
Kimley-Horn has also completed an online review of Florida Native Access Inventory (FNAI)
for species that might utilize the project area and none of these species have been observed."

I visit these wetlands regularly (I live across the street in the Venetian) and have recently taken pictures of the following birds that are listed by the state of Florida as threatened. Please refer to attached "Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List "From December 2022.

Wood Stork - FT/ST Talk of it being delisted

Roseate Spoonbill - ST

Tricolored Heron - ST

Little Blue Heron - ST

Sandhill Crane - ST

The pictures were taken of birds on the proposed construction site or on wetlands just to the south.

I would ask that you share this information with your environmental consultant. Please also relay that I would be willing to share pictures

Please let me know how I can help.

Thanks & regards,

Rick Cordner

FLORIDA'S ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES



Updated December 2022

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

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PREFACE

This document provides a table and list of the State of Florida's imperiled species of wildlife. It includes species listed at the Federal level as Endangered, Threatened, Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance, or Non-Essential Experimental by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). It also includes species listed at the State level as State-designated Threatened and Species of Special Concern by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

FWC is a constitutional agency, and its authority to regulate and manage most wildlife comes from the Florida constitution. FWC was created by a 1998 amendment to the State of Florida constitution merging the former Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC), a constitutional agency, the former Marine Fisheries Commission, and certain parts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), both statutory agencies. At the time of the merger, there were several wildlife species, not under the constitutional authority of the GFC, for which the Florida Legislature had given some statutory authority to regulate and manage to FDEP. The authority for FWC to regulate and manage these species, listed in Rule 68A-27.0031, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), comes from this statutory authority, not constitutional authority. These species are included in this document for the convenience of the user, but they are not included in rules codifying the Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List (Rule 68A-27.003, F.A.C.) or the Species of Special Concern list (Rule 68A-27.005, F.A.C.). The Federal listing status of these species shown in Rule 68A-27.0031 is that of the species in 1998 and does not reflect any status changes since that time. However, the status of these species in *this* document *does* reflect their status as of the date of this document.

In November 2010, FWC established an imperiled species management system and revised its [imperiled species rules](#). All species listed by the USFWS and NMFS that occur in Florida are now included on Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List as Federally-designated Endangered, Federally-designated Threatened, Federally-designated Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance, or Federally-designated Non-Essential Experimental Population species. Species listed by the FWC are included on the Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List as State-designated Threatened species.

The revised imperiled species management system abolishes the species of special concern (SSC) category once all species on that list are reclassified as State-designated Threatened, found to not meet any of the State's listing criteria, or become Federally listed. Until then, the FWC will continue to maintain a separate Species of Special Concern list. These species are included in this document.

The [State lists of plants](#), which are designated Endangered, Threatened, and Commercially Exploited, are administered and maintained by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS) via Chapter 5B-40, F.A.C.

The Federal list of Endangered and Threatened animals and plants is administered by the USFWS and is published in 50 CFR 17 (animals) and 50 CFR 23 (plants). Additional information regarding Federal listings can be located at the [NMFS](#) and [USFWS](#) websites.

Common and scientific names listed first are as they appear in the Florida Administrative Code, Title 68A. Common and/or scientific names following this and located within parentheses () are names as used by USFWS, or other commonly used names.

Claire Sunquist-Blunden, Wildlife Diversity Conservation Section Leader
Natalie Montero-McAllister, Species and Habitat Monitoring Coordinator
Wildlife Diversity Conservation
Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Cover Photos by FWC Staff: Key Largo Woodrat, Burrowing Owls, Okaloosa Darter, Schaus' swallowtail butterfly, Short-tailed Snake.

NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF SPECIES

Listed by the State of Florida as Federally-designated Endangered (**FE**), Federally-designated Threatened (**FT**), Federally-designated Threatened due to Similarity of Appearance [**FT(S/A)**], Federal Non-Essential Experimental Population (**FXN**), State-designated Threatened (**ST**), or State Species of Special Concern (**SSC**).

STATUS DESIGNATION	FISH	AMPHIBIANS	REPTILES	BIRDS	MAMMALS	INVERTEBRATES	TOTAL
FE	3(1) ¹	1	3(3)	8	22(5) ²	13	50(9)
FT	4(1)	1	7(2)	7	2(1)	18	39(4)
FT(S/A)	0	0	1	0	0	3	4
FXN	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
ST	6	2	9	16	4	2	39
SSC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	13(2)	4	20(5)	32	28 (6)	36	134(13)

¹ Numbers in the parentheses are the number of species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority. The status in Rule 68A-27.0031 is the Federal status these species had when the FWC was created by amendment to the Florida Constitution, adopted in 1998. The status of these species listed in here is their current Federal status as of December 2022 apart from the humpback whale.

² There is one additional species included in Rule 68A-27.0031 as a species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority. This species, the Caribbean monk seal, is not included here because it has been determined to be extinct.

FLORIDA'S ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES LIST

VERTEBRATES

FISH

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Atlantic sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</i>	FE
Blackmouth shiner	<i>Notropis melanostomus</i>	ST
Bluenose shiner	<i>Pteronotropis welaka</i>	ST
Crystal darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	ST
Giant manta ray	<i>Manta birostris</i>	FT
Gulf sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus [=oxyrhynchus] desotoi</i>	FT ¹
Key silverside	<i>Menidia conchorum</i>	ST
Nassau grouper	<i>Epinephelus striatus</i>	FT
Okaloosa darter	<i>Etheostoma okalossae</i>	FT
Saltmarsh topminnow	<i>Fundulus jenkinsi</i>	ST
Shortnose sturgeon	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	FE ¹
Smalltooth sawfish	<i>Pristis pectinate</i>	FE
Southern tessellated darter	<i>Etheostoma olmstedii maculaticeps</i>	ST

AMPHIBIANS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Florida bog frog	<i>Lithobates okaloosae</i>	ST
Frosted flatwoods salamander	<i>Ambystoma cingulatum</i>	FT
Georgia blind salamander	<i>Eurycea wallacei</i>	ST
Reticulated flatwoods salamander	<i>Ambystoma bishopi</i>	FE
Striped newt	<i>Notophthalmus perstriatus</i>	ST

REPTILES

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
American alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	FT(S/A)
American crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	FT
Atlantic salt marsh snake	<i>Nerodia clarkii taeniata</i>	FT
Barbour's map turtle	<i>Graptemys barbouri</i>	ST
Bluetail mole skink	<i>Plestiodon egregius lividus</i>	FT
Eastern indigo snake	<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	FT

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Florida brown snake	<i>Storeria victa</i>	ST ³
Florida Keys mole skink	<i>Plestiodon egregius egregius</i>	ST
Florida pine snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus</i>	ST
Gopher tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	ST
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	FT ¹
Hawksbill sea turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	FE ¹
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	FE ¹
Key ringneck snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus acricus</i>	ST
Leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	FE ¹
Loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	FT ¹
Rim rock crowned snake	<i>Tantilla oolitica</i>	ST
Sand skink	<i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>	FT
Short-tailed snake	<i>Lampropeltis extenuata</i>	ST
Suwannee alligator snapping turtle	<i>Macrochelys suwanniensis</i>	ST

BIRDS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
American oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	ST
Audubon's crested caracara	<i>Polyborus plancus audubonii</i>	FT
Bachman's wood warbler	<i>Vermivora bachmanii</i>	FE
Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	ST
Cape Sable seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis</i>	FE
Eastern black rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis</i>	FT
Eskimo curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	FE
Everglade snail kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	FE
Florida burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia floridana</i>	ST
Florida grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum floridanus</i>	FE
Florida sandhill crane	<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	ST
Florida scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>	FT
Ivory-billed woodpecker	<i>Campephilus principalis</i>	FE
Kirtland's warbler (Kirtland's wood warbler)	<i>Setophaga kirtlandii (Dendroica kirtlandii)</i>	FE
Least tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	ST
Little blue heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	ST
Marian's marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris marianae</i>	ST

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	FT
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picooides borealis</i>	FE
Reddish egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	ST
Roseate spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	ST
Roseate tern	<i>Sterna dougallii dougallii</i>	FT
Rufa red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	FT
Scott's seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus peninsulae</i>	ST
Snowy plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	ST
Southeastern American kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>	ST
Tricolored heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	ST
Wakulla seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus juncicola</i>	ST
White-crowned pigeon	<i>Patagioenas leucocephala</i>	ST
Whooping crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	FXN
Worthington's marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris griseus</i>	ST
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	FT

MAMMALS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Anastasia Island beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus phasma</i>	FE
Big Cypress fox squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger avicennia</i>	ST
Choctawhatchee beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus allophrys</i>	FE
Everglades mink	<i>Neovison vison evergladensis</i>	ST
Finback whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	FE ¹
Florida bonneted bat	<i>Eumops floridanus</i>	FE
Florida panther	<i>Puma [=Felis] concolor coryi</i>	FE
Florida salt marsh vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus dukecampbelli</i>	FE
Gray bat	<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	FE
Gray wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	FE ²
Bryde's Whale (Gulf of Mexico subspecies)	<i>Balaenoptera edeni [unnamed subspecies]</i>	FE
Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	FE ¹
Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	FE
Key deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus clavium</i>	FE
Key Largo cotton mouse	<i>Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola</i>	FE
Key Largo woodrat	<i>Neotoma floridana smalli</i>	FE

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Lower Keys rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus palustris hefneri</i>	FE
North Atlantic right whale	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	FE ¹
Perdido Key beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus trissyllepsis</i>	FE
Red wolf	<i>Canis rufus</i>	FE
Rice rat	<i>Oryzomys palustris natator</i>	FE ³
Sanibel Island rice rat	<i>Oryzomys palustris sanibeli</i>	ST
Sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	FE ¹
Sherman's short-tailed shrew	<i>Blarina shermani</i>	ST
Southeastern beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus niveiventris</i>	FT
Sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	FE ¹
St. Andrew beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus peninsularis</i>	FE
West Indian manatee (Florida manatee)	<i>Trichechus manatus</i> (<i>Trichechus manatus latirostris</i>)	FT ¹

INVERTEBRATES

CORALS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Boulder star coral	<i>Orbicella franksi</i>	FT
Elkhorn coral	<i>Acropora palmata</i>	FT
Lobed star coral	<i>Orbicella annularis</i>	FT
Mountainous star coral	<i>Orbicella faveolata</i>	FT
Pillar coral	<i>Dendrogyra cylindricus</i>	FT
Rough cactus coral	<i>Mycetophyllia ferox</i>	FT
Staghorn coral	<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	FT

CRUSTACEANS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Black Creek crayfish	<i>Procambarus pictus</i>	ST
Panama City crayfish	<i>Procambarus econfinae</i>	FT
Santa Fe cave crayfish	<i>Procambarus erythrops</i>	ST
Squirrel Chimney Cave shrimp	<i>Palaemonetes cummingi</i>	FT

INSECTS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
American burying beetle	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	FT
Bartram's scrub-hairstreak	<i>Strymon acis bartrami</i>	FE
Cassius blue butterfly	<i>Leptotes cassius theonus</i>	FT(S/A)
Ceraunus blue butterfly	<i>Hemiargus ceraunus antibubastus</i>	FT(S/A)
Florida leafwing	<i>Anaea troglodyta floridalis</i>	FE
Miami blue butterfly	<i>Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri</i>	FE
Miami tiger beetle	<i>Cicindelidia floridana</i>	FE
Nickerbean blue butterfly	<i>Cyclargus ammon</i>	FT(S/A)
Schaus swallowtail butterfly	<i>Heraclides aristodemus ponceanus</i>	FE

MOLLUSKS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Chipola slabshell (mussel)	<i>Elliptio chipolaensis</i>	FT
Choctaw bean	<i>Obovaria choctawensis</i>	FE
Fat threeridge (mussel)	<i>Amblema neislerii</i>	FE
Fuzzy pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	FT
Gulf moccasinshell (mussel)	<i>Medionidus penicillatus</i>	FE
Narrow pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia escambia</i>	FT
Ochlockonee moccasinshell (mussel)	<i>Medionidus simpsonianus</i>	FE
Oval pigtoe (mussel)	<i>Pleurobema pyriforme</i>	FE
Purple bankclimber (mussel)	<i>Elliptoideus sloatianus</i>	FT
Round ebonyshell	<i>Reginaia rotulata</i>	FE
Shinyrayed pocketbook (mussel)	<i>Hamiota subangulata</i>	FE
Southern kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranchus jonesi</i>	FE
Southern sandshell	<i>Hamiota australis</i>	FT
Stock Island tree snail	<i>Orthalicus reses [not incl. nesodryas]</i>	FT
Suwannee moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus walkeri</i>	FT
Tapered pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia burki</i>	FT

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTATIONS

List Abbreviations

FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FE	Federally-designated Endangered
FT	Federally-designated Threatened
FXN	Federally-designated Threatened Nonessential Experimental Population
FT(S/A)	Federally-designated Threatened species due to similarity of appearance
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
ST	State-designated Threatened
SSC	State Species of Special Concern
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

List Notations

- ¹ A species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority.
- ² Not documented in Florida.
- ³ Lower Keys population only.

LISTING CHANGES SINCE 2010

The Florida black bear was removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List on August 23, 2012 after approval by the Commission at the June 2012 Commission meeting. A new [Florida Black Bear Management Plan](#) was also approved at this meeting.

The Miami blue butterfly was emergency listed as Endangered by the USFWS on August 10, 2011. On April 6, 2012, the Miami blue was officially listed as Endangered by the USFWS. Effective September 19, 2012 the FWC listed the Miami blue butterfly as Federally-designated Endangered on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List.

The Cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly were emergency listed as Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue by the USFWS on August 10, 2011. On April 6, 2012, these three species were officially listed as Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue by the USFWS. These three species were listed on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List as Federally Threatened by Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue butterfly effective September 19, 2012, and as such only the following prohibitions apply to these three species:

- a. Incidental take, that is, take that results from, but is not a purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity will not apply to cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly.
- b. Collection of the cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly is prohibited in coastal counties south of Interstate 4 and extending to the boundaries of the State of Florida at the endpoints of Interstate 4 at Tampa and Daytona Beach. Specifically, such activities are prohibited in the following counties: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, De Soto, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, Sarasota, St. Lucie, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, and Volusia

The Okaloosa darter was reclassified by the USFWS effective May 2, 2011 from Endangered to Threatened. A special rule under Section 4d of the Endangered Species Act was also adopted that allows Eglin Air Force Base to continue activities with a reduced regulatory burden and will provide a net benefit to the Okaloosa darter. FWC reclassified the darter from Federally Endangered to Federally Threatened on September 19, 2012.

The Atlantic sturgeon was listed as Endangered by the NMFS on April 6, 2012. FWC reclassified the fish from Species of Special Concern to Federally Endangered on September 19, 2012.

On October 10, 2012, the USFWS listed the round ebonyshell, southern kidneyshell, and Choctaw bean as Endangered. All three mussels were listed as Federally Endangered by the FWC on June 10, 2015.

The USFWS listed the tapered pigtoe, narrow pigtoe, southern sandshell, and fuzzy pigtoe as Threatened on October 12, 2012. All four mussels were listed as Federally Threatened by the FWC on June 10, 2015.

The Florida bonneted bat was listed as Endangered by the USFWS on October 2, 2013 after receiving a petition for emergency listing in January 2010. FWC reclassified this bat species from State Threatened to Federally Endangered on June 10, 2015.

The wood stork was reclassified by the USFWS on June 30, 2014, from Endangered to Threatened. FWC reclassified the wood stork to Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The Florida leafwing and Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly were listed as Endangered by the USFWS on September 11, 2014. Both species were listed by the FWC as Federally Endangered on June 10, 2015.

The pillar coral was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 13, 2014. FWC reclassified the coral from State Threatened to Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The rufa red knot was listed as Threatened by USFWS on January 12, 2015 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The species-level federal listing of the humpback whale was revised by NMFS on December 21, 2016, and the West Indies distinct population segment of the humpback whale was removed from the Endangered Species List due to recovery. The FWC does not have constitutional authority over this species.

The Miami tiger beetle was listed as Endangered by the USFWS on November 4, 2016 and listed by FWC as Federally Endangered on or about June 12, 2017.

The Suwannee moccasinshell was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 7, 2016 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on or about June 12, 2017.

On January 11, 2017, the State listing status changes that were proposed in 2011 as part of the newly implemented imperiled species management system became official after the approval of Florida's Imperiled Species Management Plan by FWC Commissioners.

- 15 species were removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List: Eastern chipmunk, Florida mouse, brown pelican, limpkin, snowy egret, white ibis, peninsula ribbon snake (Lower Keys population), red rat snake (Lower Keys population), striped mud turtle (Lower Keys population), Suwannee cooter, gopher frog, Pine Barrens tree frog, Lake Eustis pupfish, mangrove rivulus, and Florida tree snail.
- 23 species changed from State-designated Species of Special Concern to State-designated Threatened species: Sherman's short-tailed shrew, Sanibel rice rat, little blue heron, tricolored heron, reddish egret, roseate spoonbill, American oystercatcher, black skimmer, Florida burrowing owl, Marian's marsh wren, Worthington's Marsh wren, Scott's seaside sparrow, Wakulla seaside sparrow, Barbour's map turtle, Florida Keys mole skink, Florida pine snake, Georgia blind salamander, Florida bog frog, bluenose shiner, saltmarsh top minnow, Southern tessellated darter, Santa Fe crayfish, and Black Creek crayfish.
- 14 species maintain their State-designated Threatened status: Everglades mink, Big Cypress fox squirrel, Florida sandhill crane, snowy plover, least tern, white-crowned

pigeon, Southeastern American kestrel, Florida brown snake (Lower Keys population), Key ringneck snake, short-tailed snake, rim rock crowned snake, Key silverside, blackmouth shiner, and crystal darter. Six species remain listed as State-designated Species of Special Concern: (list species): Homosassa shrew, Sherman's fox squirrel, osprey (Monroe County population), alligator snapping turtle, Panama City crayfish, and harlequin darter.

On December 23, 2018, the State listing status changes that were proposed in 2011 as part of the newly implemented imperiled species management system became official after the approval of Florida's Imperiled Species Management Plan by FWC Commissioners.

- Four species were removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List as State Species of Special Concern: Harlequin darter, Osprey (Monroe County population), Homosassa shrew, and Sherman's fox squirrel.
- The Alligator snapping turtle was taxonomically reclassified into three subspecies. The Suwannee alligator snapping turtle was listed as a State-designated Threatened species.
- Two species were listed as Federally-designated Threatened species: Giant manta ray and Nassau grouper.
- Four species had changes in their scientific names: Short tailed snake, Bluetail mole skink, Florida Keys mole skink, and Sand skink.

The Bryde's whale (Gulf of Mexico subspecies) was listed as Endangered by NMFS on May 15, 2019 and listed by FWC as Federally Endangered on February 9, 2021.

The Eastern black rail was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 9, 2020 with an additional rule under Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act. The Eastern black rail was listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on May 27, 2021.

The American burying beetle was reclassified from Endangered to Threatened by the USFWS on November 16, 2020 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on May 27, 2021.

Three mussels, Choctaw bean, round ebonyshell, and shinyrayed pocketbook, and the eastern indigo snake underwent changes to their scientific names on May 18, 2022. FWC adopted these federal standards on December 1, 2022.

The Panama City crayfish was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on February 4, 2022. The crayfish's status on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List was changed from SSC to FT after approval by the Commission on December 1, 2022.

The striped newt was determined to warrant state listing as Threatened and was added to Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species list after approval by the Commission on December 1, 2022. Species Conservation Measures and Permitting Guidelines, the Species Action Plan for the newt, and updates to the Imperiled Species Management Plan to incorporate the newt were also approved on December 1, 2022.

From: [verizon customer service](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Edward Lavallee](#); [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: PROPOSED SHOPPING CENTER ON LAUREL ROAD
Date: Monday, April 24, 2023 11:05:22 AM

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Honorable Members of Council:

Please know that many of us who live in Venetian Golf & River Club are IN FAVOR of the proposed shopping center across from us IF this development is done well.

There is no need to talk about increased traffic, because we already have it! With the addition of many more homes on Laurel Road near us, it will even more so. We desperately need a traffic light at our entrance. I believe the widening of Laurel and the commercial development across from us will demand improving traffic control.

I do NOT believe that commercial development to include a grocery store will increase traffic to our area.

All of us -- and the many more who will occupy the new homes on Laurel -- will not want to drive to the Jacaranda roundabout (which is already too busy) nor to Vicenza shopping center (which is already too busy with more to come there). Additional shopping near us should serve to alleviate some of the necessary driving for groceries and prescriptions.

Working WITH the developer, in our opinion, is the best approach for improvements that will benefit VGRC. We support the proposed shopping mall proposed by Mr. Neil at the corner of Jacaranda and Laurel Road.

Respectfully,
Fred & Joanna Williamson
173 Palazzo Court
North Venice, FL 34275

From: [Michael W Dukes](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kelly Michaels](#); [Mercedes Barcia](#); [Toni Cone](#); [Amanda Hawkins-Brown](#)
Subject: UPCOMING MEETING Regarding Supporting or Overturning the Planning Commission's 4 to 3 vote in opposition of Pat Neal's plan.
Date: Sunday, April 23, 2023 1:27:50 PM

Caution: This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I am writing to ask the City Council to overturn the Planning Commission's 4 to 3 decision against the Neal Project.

I hope the Council realizes that there are many, many folks residing in the VGRC that do not want to get involved and are not taking part in surveys, meetings, etc. but really do want the Neal development to succeed. I have already lost several friends over my support of this issue and really do not understand their opposition to the convenience of a grocery, pharmacy, restaurant, etc..at the corner of Laurel & Jacaranda Road. These services would benefit the VGRC, Cielo, Milano, Aria and the newer developments East of the Laurel and Jacaranda intersection, namely Vicenza & Laurel Woodlands. In addition, not to mention the future residents of the new un completed townhome development of Fiore, which is located before reaching the VGRC. Last Thursday, April 20 at 3:15 pm, it took my wife and I a little over 25 mins from Publix at Pinebrook and Laurel to reach our home in the VGRC. This situation is only going to get worse. More residents mean more services will be needed. Convenience to these services is very important to all of us as we age. Good luck in making your decision on this matter, but I certainly hope you will take our thoughts and wishes into consideration.

Thank you,
Dr. Michael W. Dukes
241 Montelluna Dr
North Venice, FL