From: Ron Siegrist
To: City Council

Subject: Hauser Lane development for affordable workforce housing

**Date:** Tuesday, October 22, 2019 12:29:56 PM

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Honorable Mayor Holic and all Distinguished Council Members,

Thank you for today's unanimous approval to move forward with the next formal vote regarding final approval for rezoning of my friend John Baileys property on Substation Road. This process is definitely getting easier to be able to provide usage for properties to be developed as affordable workforce housing.

Rezoning into high density is a giant step yet still there are hurdles ahead as pertaining to certain private roads and the next steps to actually developing a site plan regarding same. The rezoning is only step one in the overall process. The next logical step is to figure out a way to actually submit a feasible way to accommodate the road situation.

Mayor Holic re-visited the earlier failed road bond project from a few years ago for Substation Road, and more to my next point, and the reason for this letter. I am writing regarding the private road Hauser Lane, where my properties have deeded access and egress across Hauser Lane, from Tamiami Trail. The timing seems proper now, especially after hearing that there will be upcoming discussions and the summit regarding road projects inside City limits as proposed during the previous City Council meeting of two weeks ago whereby I was in attendance.

As you are aware, regarding Hauser Lane, the neighbors owning properties here are mostly all in agreement and in favor of the City's bond project idea. The one property owner, however, that would not even acknowledge and respond to the letters sent by the City as well as sent by myself personally caused the project to stop abruptly, at least on Hauser Lane. That property owner was the Motel 6 Corporation. the Motel 6 executives in Texas, simply decided not to reply to repeated requests for their opinion. Motel 6 owns approximately the front 300 feet of the roadway which then becomes residential.

I have recently sent a letter to the City Manager regarding my forthcoming idea but recognize how busy he and his staff are whereby he has not as yet had an opportunity to review and respond. I have since again been in contact with his assistant to let her know my intent to offer my suggestion to you either during my 5 minute resident discussion time during a Council Meeting, or in an email.

We resident land owners on Hauser Lane have approximately 10 acres zoned high density. Mr. and Mrs. Don O Connell, Mr. and Mrs George Ronald, and myself were fortunate to have you give the high density designation over the recent years. We understand the value of bringing affordable workforce housing to our community

in this very close proximity to many, many businesses serving Venice proper.

I have recently visited and spoken with all the neighbors using Hauser Lane about my idea. The owner of Top Notch Car Wash, the various owners of the mini storage condominiums, and Darren Bracken of Bracken Electric, along with myself, George Ronald and Don OConnell have all agreed to split the full cost of a formal appraisal for the City to determine the fair and just value to Motel 6 for the first 300 linear feet of roadway acquired through Eminent Domain by the City. Don OConnell owns the rest of the road and he is fully in support of offering his portion of the road as well.

The idea of Eminent Domain is certainly one way the City can acquire the front portion of the roadway that is only 300 feet long yet prevents the back 10 prime acreage from being developed for the highest and best usage, of local affordable workforce housing. The continued tax benefits to the City following this type of development will in no time bring the project into a positive income situation for the City.

There will be no initial cost to the City for the appraisal as we property owners are in agreement and will fully pay for same. There is more than one way to arrive to a favorable outcome regarding benefiting our blue collar workforce and the City. A situation such as this certainly seems to me to be an underlying reason for the idea of Eminent Domain to be used as a lawful tool for our local community to benefit its citizens. I believe it is certainly something to consider for future City discussions.

Thank you again, for your consideration of my proposal.

## Cordially,

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