



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**TO:** Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager

**THRU:** Tad Calkins, Assistant County Manager

**FROM:** Amanda Elmore, Deputy Director, Natural Resources Management Dept. *AE*

**SUBJ:** Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2025025

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CEER #2025025, titled Environmental, was received by the County from Ms. Elizabeth Weeks.

**Citizen Statement:**

County board allowing development of unimproved properties without environmental review.

**Citizen Recommendation:**

Species protection. Concerned about allowing development of properties that are unimproved, vacant, and have mature trees and undergrowth. We feel they should be evaluated for threatened species. Builders should be required to relocate these.

**Staff Analysis:**

NRM Environmental Resources Management (ERM) conducts environmental review of nearly all land development activities on developed and undeveloped properties in unincorporated Brevard County. ERM assesses proposed development for compliance with 10 environmental protection ordinances including wetland, floodplain, aquifer recharge, and surface water protection. Development review includes site plans, subdivisions, and building permits, and other ERM-specific permits (e.g., surface water protection, small scale land clearing, and land alteration).

During these reviews, ERM also assesses for indicators of protected species that may reside in a particular habitat (e.g., Florida scrub jays, gopher tortoises, marine turtles, manatees, and bald eagles). These species are regulated by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. However, ERM informs applicants about the potential presence of any protected species and provides contact information for the applicable State or Federal permitting agency.

Note that the criteria within ERM's ordinances have a secondary effect of species protection through habitat protection. ERM ordinances can be viewed at [www.brevardfl.gov/NaturalResources](http://www.brevardfl.gov/NaturalResources).

**Staff Recommended Action:**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners reject CEER #2025025, as it does not enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of County government as required by Home Rule Charter as detailed in the staff analysis.

CC: Frank Abbate, County Manager

## Horst, Rachel

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**From:** CEER@brevardfl.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 11:02 AM  
**To:** Horst, Rachel  
**Subject:** A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2025025

### Recommendation # 2025025

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2025025 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

#### Contact Information:

##### Group/Organization

**Name** Elizabeth Weeks  
**Address** PO Box 236603, Cocoa FL 32923  
**Phone** (321) 978-1687  
**Email** Tweeks74@yahoo.com  
**Alternate Email**

#### Recommendation Information:

**Recommendation ID** 2025025  
**Recommendation Title** Environmental  
**Areas Affected**  
**Department Affected**  
**Current problem** County board allowing development of unimproved properties without environmental review.  
**Recommendation** Species protection Concerned about allowing development of properties that are unimproved, vacant, and have mature trees and undergrowth. We feel they should be evaluated for threatened species. Builders should be required to relocate these species.  
**Attachments** No Documents were attached.

Please do not reply to this e-mail, as it will go to an unmonitored mailbox.