



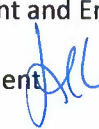
Planning & Development Department

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Room 114
Viera, Florida 32940

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


TO: Frank Abbate, County Manager

THRU: John Denninghoff, Assistant County Manager, Development and Environmental Services Group

FROM: Tad Calkins, Director, Planning and Development Department 

SUBJECT: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2024059

DATE: April 1, 2024



CEER #2024059 was received by the County from Laurilee Thompson.

Citizen Statement:

Brevard is blessed. We have a celebrated environment with beaches, our Lagoon and wetlands; a thriving business community; strong educational institutions; nationally recognized tourism resources; and more-the world's leading Space Port.

Where many communities boast "quad-modal" transportation infrastructure systems (aviation, rail, road, and sea) to support and drive their growth, Brevard may be the only "penta-modal" community that is adding Space to its other drivers. This unique opportunity is the result both of its choice location for the launching of rockets and the leadership of our County Commission, Economic Development Commission, Space Florida, and others over the past decades.

Today the accelerating growth of commercial Space, and other issues, are driving changes through much of our community:

- Thousands of acres of new manufacturing and support facilities both within the Space Port and beyond.
- Additions of tens of thousands of workers to support government and private Space activities, with the accompanying need for housing and support facilities.
- Construction of new wastewater facilities to support growth and meet new septic conversion requirements.
- Need for provisions to manage anticipated sea-level rise.
- Adaptation of Port Canaveral to accommodate Space industry needs in addition to tourism and commercial activities.
- Replacement and expansion of our roads and bridges to support Space and other growth.
- Expansion of our local airports and improved rail access.
- Additions to our educational and tourism resources.
- And more.

The question that we face is this:



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- Can we join forces as a community to build synergy as we develop and integrate these changing demands into our infrastructure and at the same time sustain our environment and quality of life? If we cannot, we have seen the type of community disruption that can take place, for example in Boca Chica, Texas. The issue posed then is this: What leadership role should the Brevard County Commission play in understanding and planning this development over the next 20-30 years and beyond? Failure to do this is likely to lead to substantial deterioration in our environment, inefficient development, and citizens' dissatisfaction with their quality of life.

Citizen Recommendation:

We urge the County Commission to recognize the dramatic changes that are taking place here today and accelerating into the future, and to work with Space Florida to characterize, quantify, and plan for this development.

We recommend that the Commission use its unique Brevard leadership role to engage key organizations, beginning with Space Florida, to form a task force made of the entities involved in the planning, permitting, and implementation of future projects in order to characterize and quantify the coming growth.

This "inventory" should lead to a planning process that moves our community forward, while balancing growth and quality of life synergistically, and avoiding conflicting demands and unplanned problems. This effort should be transparent to and involve the public.

Utilizing these agencies and organizations to create and implement a unified plan now, rather than reacting to growth in a piecemeal manner as it occurs, will save the County considerable time and money in the future.

The following is a draft list of organizations to be included in this effort:

Key Participants for County-Related "Penta-Modal" Growth Assessment Task Force

- Brevard County Commission
- NASA/KSC
- DOD/Space Force/CCSFS
- Space Florida
- Space Coast Economic Development Council
- Canaveral Port Authority
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office
- Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority
- Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
- IRL National Estuary Program/ Indian River Lagoon Council
- Titusville/Cocoa Municipal Representatives
- USFWS/Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
- National Park Service/Canaveral National Seashore



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- FAA/COMSTAC
- US Coast Guard – Canaveral MSD
- US Department of Commerce
- NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
- Brevard County Tourist Development Council
- Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Florida Dept. of Transportation
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- Indian River Lagoon Roundtable
- Marine Resources Council of East Florida
- Space Coast Audubon Society
- Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition

Staff Analysis:

The long-term strategic planning discussed as part of this recommendation is best addressed through the comprehensive plan process. The process is objective, allows for public and stakeholder participation, and carries significant weight in related decision-making. The County's efforts in 2022 in amending the Coastal Management Element of the Comprehensive Plan is an example of such an effort, during which 13 policies were adopted to include language that creates procedures to allow consideration of the changing dynamics of flooding, sea level rise, and storm surge in growth management decisions through nature-based design standards and/or Low Impact Development. This process included review by several of the listed agencies, including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Staff would also note that the County is currently in the process of implementing an Area of Critical State Concern in the South Beaches Area. This process, which is overseen by our partners at Florida Commerce, will involve public and stakeholder input (such as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission), and is expected to have a significant impact on several of the issues raised here, including wastewater infrastructure, additions to educational resources, and growth management.

Staff will continue to advance effective growth management policies consistent with Board direction.

Staff Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept the recommendation with revisions as detailed in the staff analysis.

Recommendation #2024059

Recommendation Details

Contact Information

Full Name:	Laurilee Thompson	Email Address:	laurileethompson@aol.com
Mailing Address:	3540 IRWIN AV MIMS fl 32754	Alt Email Address:	
		Phone Number	321-794-6866

Group/Organization	subcommittee of the Indian River Lagoon Roundtable
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Recommendation Information

Recommendation Title:	Building Brevard's Unique Space Future with Quality of Life
Areas Affected:	
Department:	

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**Problem
Description:**

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**Recommendation
Description**

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- Indian River Lagoon Roundtable
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- Space Coast Audubon Society
- Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition

Attachments

There are no attachments for this recommendation.

Administrative Action

Evaluation

Recommendation Timeline

User	Status	Date	Remarks
RACHEL HORST	Citizen Submitted	Jan 3, 2024	
Karen Conde	Department Assigned	Jan 4, 2024	PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT Assigned

Awaiting action from department director