

Jeff Hmara

From: Jeff Hmara <jhmara@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2015 1:03 PM
To: 'Jeff Hmara'
Cc: 'Jeff Hmara'
Subject: Council Update from Jeff Hmara's Point of View...September

COUNCIL UPDATE--SEPTEMBER 2015

...FROM JEFF HMARA'S POINT OF VIEW

- NEW ANNEXATION

About 100 acres of unincorporated PBC is moving through the process of annexation into VRPB...the land is located just south of Southern Blvd., across the C-51 Canal from the Cemetery/Ford Dealership, just west of Lowes...a portion of these parcels are being annexed through Petition of Voluntary Annexation by the residents...the remainder of the properties will put to a vote in a special election for a majority decision, this October...all registered voters living on these parcels will be sent a mail-in ballot on which they can vote: Yes or No ...unfortunately, this referendum process is referred to as: Involuntary Annexation...this does not mean they will be forced into VRPB...it means that it must be put to a vote, since not all residents have volunteered to be annexed...Village Manager met with many of the residents and it seems that the majority want to be annexed; however, a few seem to be reluctant...the annexation will provide for more consistent and better quality municipal service, like fire & rescue, police, parks and roads...exactly how this land will be developed remains to be determined...the original future development concept has changed several times already, so there are likely to be more changes before a site plan is finalized.

- RPB UPDATED STORM WATER MASTERPLAN

Village received the results of updated modeling of our Storm Water System, at last Council Meeting...the updates were based on new information from SFWMD and LIDAR (airborne surveys of existing structure elevations)...two key results are: only 5 or 6 structures in VRPB appear to be at or below the 1% or 100 year flood level...this is a big change from the initial FEMA Flood Maps because it is much more current and accurate...also, VRPB proposed canal dredging project will focus on areas where the greatest debris accumulation exists and will improve water quality and navigation, but is not likely to reduce flood stage within VRPB...still, under worst case (100 year rain event), only 5 or 6 structures look to be at or below flood level and the LIDAR may not be fully accurate...so, follow-up ground surveys will be done to be sure of accurate elevations.

- GL HOMES DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

As with Minto West expansion, GL Homes is seeking County approval to increase the number of homes from what was permitted on their 4900 acre property when purchased from 490 homes to 4000 homes...the GL Homes property is located to north and west of this would bring a lot more cars to roads like Seminole-Pratt Whitney, Okeechobee, Southern and Northlake Blvd's...there are about \$30M of road improvements planned on these and a few other local roads, but according to County Engineer George Webb, the area would need about 5 new 6 lane roads at a cost of millions more...and, an even more difficult problem is that there isn't enough room to

build these roads...GL Homes' request to increase the number of homes is expected to come before the BCC for a vote in January 2016...at RPB Council direction, the Village Manager has worked with 5 other municipalities and ITID on a strategy to influence the County Commissioners decision...VM and I will meet with the new County Administrator, Verdenia Baker, and our District 6 County Commissioner, Melissa McKinlay, to discuss this, further.

- **ONE LAST THOUGHT ON VRPB SCHOOLS**

A lot has been accomplished in our schools in VRPB, recently...of course, anyone who is familiar with our schools knows there is more to be done...but I believe there is significant momentum moving in the right direction...we may even have an opportunity to make something extraordinary happen in VRPB education...you could look at this situation as an equation (hang on):

RPBHS Performance Improvements + RPBHS IB Program + RPBHS Facelift + Crestwood Middle STEM + Cypress Trails Elementary STEM + New PB Schools Superintendent + PBSC Campus SR80 (2017) + Chamber of Commerce Education Initiatives (New CEO→Education Forum→Young Entrepreneurs Academy) =

VRPB CENTER OF EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

...OK, so not everyone likes math, but these are facts and it looks like an opportunity to me...with our involvement and support, I think we can help make something exceptional happen for our kids

...your thoughts?

→As always, your input is greatly appreciated...

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