

City of Davenport

Summary of Issues

EAR Public Workshop

March 6, 2008

The following is a summary of the issues that were expressed by Davenport residents at the EAR Public Workshop on March 6th, and as turned in via survey. Some of these issues will be considered when preparing the City's Evaluation and Appraisal Report. Many of the issues presented may not be considered as major growth related issues but are of equal importance to share with the City.

Transportation

Do you have any concerns with the highways, streets, sidewalks, trails or streetlights in the City?

- ✓ Some sidewalks in the older sections of the City are in disrepair and should be improved. Sidewalks should be modified for wheelchair accessibility.
- ✓ South Boulevard, on the west side, is walled off from continuing the street.
- ✓ Raise North Boulevard speed limit, US 27 to CR 547.
- ✓ CR 547 and CSX railroad crossing at Bay Street: potholes in road.
- ✓ Magnolia Street is in deplorable condition.
- ✓ Many street lights and poles leaning and need replacing.

Are you satisfied with the public transportation in your City?

- ✓ There is no intercity bus service available to Davenport residents, but the need for public transit has not been clearly established.
- ✓ Davenport needs representation at county transportation planning meetings.

Housing

Are there any housing issues in the City that are a concern to you?

- ✓ Separation between houses is too close. The new homes have zero lot lines and are too close together.
- ✓ Minimum housing standards needed.
- ✓ Need larger lot size for single family housing.

What other types of housing would you like to see in your City?

- ✓ The City needs more affordable rental housing.
- ✓ A mixed-use development that allows businesses and retail offices to be combined with residential units is needed. Allow upstairs living units in downtown commercial area.

Infrastructure

Do you have any concerns with the City's water system and or the sewer system? Do you have any issues with stormwater drainage or flooding?

- ✓ Some areas in the City have drainage problems. (Kissimmee Avenue and Palmetto cited as an example.)
- ✓ The City is moving ahead in increasing potable water capacity.
- ✓ The City is moving ahead with constructing a new wastewater treatment plant and extending sewer lines to older neighborhoods.

Conservation

What concerns do you have with the protection of natural resources? (Including: lakes, rivers, wildlife, habitat, and wetlands)

- ✓ The restoration of Lake Davenport was cited.
- ✓ The City needs to implement SWFWMD rules and restrictions to protect resources.

Recreation and Open Space

Are the parks and recreation facilities adequate?

- ✓ The City has an adequate amount of parks and recreation sites, some of which are underused.
- ✓ The area around Lake Play should remain attractive, with lake water quality preserved.
- ✓ Improvements to Wilson Park were cited as a need.

Future Land Use

Do you have any concerns about the future land uses planned for your City? Do you have any issues with the City's zoning and development regulations? If so, please explain.

- ✓ The City is considering revising its land development regulations to accommodate a diverse variety of land use types and densities, including mixed use development.
- ✓ Redevelopment of the older parts of the City and business core needs to provide for complementary land uses.
- ✓ There is a desire to achieve zoning that maintains the small town qualities of Davenport.
- ✓ Development regulations are in most cases adequate, but need stronger enforcement.
- ✓ Additional development and more industrial sites are not advantageous to keeping town small.
- ✓ During downturn in economy, discourage development that leads to urban sprawl.
- ✓ There is a desire to see flexibility in land development regulations to allow existing businesses to expand.

Additional Comments

Are there any historic or cultural resources in the City you would like to see preserved? Please identify and list the location of these resources.

- ✓ The City recognizes its designated historic district as an asset, including City Hall, the Community Center/Chamber of Commerce building and the original Davenport elementary school. Historic homes and buildings in the downtown area, and the water tower are also candidates for preservation.
- ✓ A legitimate historic preservation board should be in place to implement restoration activities.
- ✓ The Community Center is sufficient to accommodate community meetings, but needs maintenance and restoration efforts.

What do you like best about your community?

- ✓ Davenport has a small town, home town feel that offers a safe and comfortable environment, and desires to build upon this asset and sense of community.
- ✓ Community events are an asset, including the Fall Quilt Show and Spring Heritage Days.

What do you want to change about the community?

- ✓ Improve the appearance for those passing through the community.
- ✓ Increase commercial development.
- ✓ Nothing.

What would you like your City to look like 10 years from now?

- ✓ Capitalize on the restoration of buildings and the revitalization of the town's center as an old-fashioned but viable business core, with a variety of services and businesses catering to residents and visitors.
- ✓ Some residential and commercial growth to attract new residents.
- ✓ Not much different but with more clean downtown business development.
- ✓ Infill existing districts.