



# City of Eagle Lake

## EAR Public Workshop

### Major Issues Survey Responses

The following is a summary of the issues that was taken from the Major Issues Surveys that were collected from Eagle Lake Residents. In total, the City collected 47 surveys. The following is a summary of the issues expressed. 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?**

#### Responses:

- ✓ Road improvements are needed throughout the City. The roads with potholes should be repaired instead of patched (i.e., Cameron Road).
- ✓ Reduce the congestion on Crystal Beach Road and keep landscape along the street trimmed.
- ✓ Existing sidewalks are in serious disrepair and new sidewalks are needed. There is a need for a sidewalk from the corner of W. Gilbert Road to Eagle Avenue, children have no safe way to get to Eagle Lake Elementary.
- ✓ Many roads are too narrow for two-way traffic, so drivers are forced to move onto the grass shoulder to pass approaching traffic.
- ✓ There is a need for streetlights on Willow Road, Gerber Dairy Road and a new road off of Rifle Range Road. There is a speeding issue on Gerber Road, which makes it very dangerous for children to play in front yards.
- ✓ North 10th Street should be widened because of the congestion. Lake Avenue East needs a 4-way stop and/or speed bumps.
- ✓ The City should conduct routine checks of all the existing street lights.
- ✓ Reduce traffic and speed on Eagle Lake Avenue, and throughout the City.
- ✓ The traffic light at US HWY 17 and Gilbert Road is very dangerous, and should be working 7 days a week - not just Monday thru Friday.
- ✓ The driving view on US 17 South from Lake Avenue is blocked by a fence when trying to make a left on US 17, making it very dangerous for cars turning left onto US 17 North.
- ✓ The traffic light on Eagle Lake Avenue is too long, and some drivers are taking alternative routes to avoid the long light.
- ✓ At the intersection of US Highway 17 and SR 540, there are many cars running the traffic light.

- ✓ At the end of 11th Street and 12th Street, there used to be grass, and now there is only dirt and dust. The City should improve this area by installing new sod.

**Are you satisfied with the public transportation in your City?**

Responses:

- ✓ There is a need for public transportation in the City, for residents including senior citizens.

## Housing

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

Responses:

- ✓ The City should do more to encourage homeowners to keep their properties clean, including removing trash and junk from their yards.
- ✓ The address of 239 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street appears to have multiple code enforcement violations, with people living in tents and sheds. The address of 522 N. Jackson Street is unoccupied, abandoned, and is an eyesore.
- ✓ The houses off of Maple Street should be cleaned up and brought up to Code.
- ✓ Many yards and the exteriors of houses need attention, including painting.

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

Responses:

- ✓ More single-family housing, and no apartments or low-income apartments.
- ✓ Replace mobile homes with modular homes as necessary.
- ✓ Increase residential growth, but do not allow trucks on front lawns.
- ✓ Reduce housing development, add quality retail shops, businesses, hotels or motels.
- ✓ Keep Eagle Lake a small, beautiful City.

## Infrastructure

**Do you have any concerns with the City's water system and/or the sewer system?**

Responses:

- ✓ The high rates are a concern, and there is a bad taste in the water.

**Do you have any issues with stormwater drainage or flooding?**

Responses:

- ✓ Need better drainage system, encouraging water flow & drainage towards the dry pond and towards the pond by the Post Office.
- ✓ Manholes should have debris collection baskets in them. There is trash of all types collecting in the manholes when the storm water drains.

- ✓ The alleyways are filled with dirt, and when it rains, the dirt flows into the curb/drain area and blocks up the water.
- ✓ There is very bad drainage problem on the corner of McLeod Road and Bingham Road.
- ✓ At 306 South Avocado Court and on Shirley Court, the tree stumps were never removed in this area following the hurricane clean-up.
- ✓ The stormwater drain at the end of East Lake Avenue does not drain into the Lake. There is a deep hole that fills up like a pool.
- ✓ The City's water quality is below acceptable standards. The treatment station next to the fire station needs chemicals to reduce the odor.

## Conservation

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ The City should limit the number of houses built by the Lake and require larger lot sizes.
- ✓ Protect the trees and foliage in and around the City.
- ✓ Boaters & fisherman should stop disposing trash into the Lakes, protect Lake McLeod and Eagle Lake.
- ✓ Restrict hunting and illegal poaching of turtles and alligators.
- ✓ Restrict development in protected and sensitive areas.
- ✓ The City should protect the lakes, wildlife, habitat and wetlands.
- ✓ Stop developing on Lake McLeod and on Eagle Lake and improve the quality of Lake McLeod. There is no aquatic plant life at Lake McLeod.
- ✓ The Lakes are very dirty, polluted, and are polluted with harmful bacteria.

## Recreation and Open Space

### **Are the parks and recreation facilities adequate?**

#### Responses:

- ✓ It would be nice to have the main park near the City Hall with benches, flowers and gardens.
- ✓ There is a need for more park benches at the playground near the Eagle Lake boat ramp.
- ✓ The City should keep up with the repairs needed on park equipment.

- ✓ Keep park bathrooms clean and provide adequate trash cans.
- ✓ There is a need for more recreation sites, a dog park, and provide a walking trail.
- ✓ The signs in the lakes are dangerous and there is no room for boating or skiing.
- ✓ The City should consider turning the lights off at the baseball field at night.

## Future Land Use

### Do you have any concerns about the future land uses planned for your City?

#### Responses:

- ✓ Too many housing subdivisions will lead to more crime, crowded roads, and Eagle Lake will lose its small-town appeal.
- ✓ Too much development and expansion of the City limits through annexation.

### Do you have any issues with the City's zoning and development regulations? If so, please explain.

#### Responses:

- ✓ The City should limit the car lots, but increase the restaurants and retail shops. Require larger lot sizes per house for new development.

## Additional Comments

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ The City should work to preserve the City Hall (school) and the historic building on US Highway 17.
- ✓ Restore the Mistle Toe Market Place, Old Garden Club, Civil League and the Linda Weldon Building.

### What do you like best about your community?

#### Responses:

- ✓ The size, the safety, and the freedom to move about in a safe community. Also, the easy access to major roadways, and the great parks.
- ✓ The City is small and quiet with a sense of community.

### What do you want to change about your community?

#### Responses:

- ✓ Improve the appearance and curb appeal. Get rid of the number of used car lots.
- ✓ Code enforcement should actively observe problems and not wait for citizens to complain, and they should follow up on people who are cited for violations.
- ✓ There is a need for residents to take better care of their property, especially on 3rd Street, Bingham Road and Felton Road.

- ✓ Allow only low-density residential development.
- ✓ Change the Library times to at least 1:00 p.m.
- ✓ Increase police patrol. There is more crime and gang activity since the transfer to the County's police department.
- ✓ The City needs to add more trees and beautification.
- ✓ Stop extending the City limits.

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

Responses:

- ✓ Would like for Eagle Lake to look more like the downtown Winter Haven and the new Haines City.
- ✓ New store fronts on US 17.
- ✓ Maintain the small-town atmosphere.
- ✓ Do not want to look like Winter Haven or Lakeland.
- ✓ A small, neat, upscale community with a variety of retail and restaurants with nice landscaping.

**Please include any additional comments you have, or note any other issues you feel are important to address.**

Responses:

- ✓ Improve and beautify the main entrances to the City.
- ✓ The City should limit the construction and keep the orange groves.
- ✓ Eliminate the littering on Eagle Lake Avenue and enforce a noise ordinance to prevent loud music playing from cars.
- ✓ The library needs more resources and funding.
- ✓ Increase police presence to patrol the teenagers who are out at midnight.
- ✓ There should be more than one pickup day for garbage. There is a fly and maggot problem, since trash only gets picked up once a week.
- ✓ The City should regularly check unlicensed cars and unregistered vehicles in yards and driveways (i.e., Coolie Road and Fruitland Park Circle).
- ✓ The City should place the water bill in a business envelope.
- ✓ The City needs more Code Enforcement officers, to enforce the removal of garbage carts left on the streets and to pick up stray dogs and cats.
- ✓ The City should lower property taxes and limit high density residential.
- ✓ The City should better communicate to residents about services/programs available to them, or send out a community newsletter so the community will know what is going on around the City.
- ✓ Please limit the car lots and gas stations in the City.