



# City of Polk City

## EAR Public Work Session

### Major Issues Summary

The following is a summary of the issues that were expressed by Polk City residents at the EAR Work session meeting on February 26, 2008. 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:

- ✓ The City should look into replacing street signs, neighborhood watch signs, children playing signs, and repaint lines marking crosswalks.
- ✓ The intersection at (SR 33) & Commonwealth is not wide enough for trucks to turn.
- ✓ Old Polk City Road at SR 33 needs a streetlight & street sign.
- ✓ Additional lighting is needed at the CR 557-557A crossing at Lake Alfred (the Barn) leading to Polk City. There is a need for a traffic light at Berkeley & SR 33.
- ✓ The Utility Company needs to partner with the City to add new street lights to some of the older neighborhoods.
- ✓ The trees in the right of way are now blocking the lights. The City should look into widening several neighborhood streets.
- ✓ There is limited right of way from 1st through 4th Streets - the City should consider making this a one-way street.
- ✓ The dirt roads within the City limits need to be paved. The County is responsible for paving the roads.
- ✓
- ✓ The street that you cross to get to the park, is very dangerous. The City should consider adding some traffic calming devices to this area.

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

##### Responses:

- ✓ No, there is no public transportation, except a medical van that you first have to qualify for to ride. There is need for public transportation in the City.

## Housing

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ The City should encourage quality development vs. quantity, and evaluate development scale, ambiance, and look into design standards.
- ✓ The residents would like to see quality middle-class, affordable housing that serves Tampa/Orlando workers.
- ✓ The City needs to identify and build upon the City's Feature, the Green Swamp and the Trail (Van Fleet).
- ✓ Establish a scenic gateway to Van Fleet Trail and develop connectivity (off of the Trail).
- ✓ Prefer not to see Polk City with time shares - instead would like to see more single-family homes

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ Single-family homes, multi-family housing, duplexes and a retirement center.

## Infrastructure

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ The City is building a new sewer plant, with construction to end by the Fall of 2008.
- ✓ There is a sewer concern at Orange Wood Village, Unit 6, Lot 125. The City has promised to follow-up, but no one has responded. Residents would like grants to cover installation and hook-up fees.

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ There is a drainage problem at Ashley Road and Honey Bee Lane - both have standing water after hard rains.

## Conservation

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ We need to protect our natural resources and wetlands. Auburndale has a spray field behind a residential area. Residents want to know what effects this field will have on them.

## Recreation and Open Space

### Are the parks and recreation facilities adequate?

#### Responses:

- ✓ Our trail is nice, and the new fishing pier is a plus, but we could always use new play equipment. There is very little for the handicapped at the City park. More baseball and soccer fields are needed.
- ✓ The City would like to purchase more vacant land for parks and recreation purposes.
- ✓ The City needs more recreation facilities for children and teenagers.
- ✓ Some residents would like to see a YMCA in Polk City.

## Future Land Use

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

#### Responses:

- ✓ There is a need to attract more businesses, but keep the local stores.
- ✓ Increase lower density land uses and preserve character while growing.
- ✓ Keep the small town atmosphere - without a Wal-Mart or Lowe's.

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

- ✓ The City should designate more land for low-density residential, instead of multi-family high residential.

## Additional Comments

### Are there any historic or cultural resources in the City you would like to see preserved?

#### Responses:

- ✓ Restore and rebuild the time capsule at Polk City, and the library on SR 33. Restore the monument wagon train masters. Move the Florida Unit of Bicentennial of 1976 to it's appropriate place. Preserve the Polk City Elementary original building.

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

- ✓ The people, hardworking community, family oriented, small town atmosphere, caring residents.

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

- ✓ The perception of the small town slow to grow, curb appeal, better roads, street light is needed to slow traffic on highway 33.

- ✓ More job opportunities for residents and youth.

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

- ✓ Residents would like to see a Publix, YMCA, Mc Donald's and Skate Park in Polk City.
- ✓ There is a need for more grocery stores, uniform mail boxes and trash cans.
- ✓ The City should adopt more ordinances.

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

- ✓ The City needs to create volunteer community groups to help implement City events.
- ✓ A resident would like to be notified by reverse 911, or in advance, when Polk City Corrections are going to be in the area neighborhood cleaning up.