

**Greater Palm River Area Community Plan Update  
Community Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) Meeting**  
Emanuel P. Johnson Recreation Center  
July 26, 2023 (6:30 pm – 8 pm)

**A. Staff-led Review**

- Recap of last month's meeting and upcoming events
  - i. Reminder that there is a virtual meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Review tonight's meeting structure/topic

**B. Comments & Discussion**

- Review of Adopted Goals
  - i. Goal 2: Crime and Public Safety
    - 1. Discussion public safety and concerns with criminal activity
    - 2. Suggestions on creating safer environments through design (lighting), improvements, and community resources (shelters).
  - ii. Goal 5b: Economic Development
    - 1. Discussion of need for adequate infrastructure to help with economic development.
  - iii. Goal 6: Senior, Social, Health-Medical Services and Schools
    - 1. There is still a need for various services – homes for the aged, child care, etc.
- Review of Initial Draft Recommendations for Community Plan Update
  - i. Discussion that the current name does not capture/reflect all the neighborhoods.
    - 1. Staff discussed how neighborhoods are being identified in the updated language and on the concept vision map.
  - ii. Discussion about code enforcement concerns still being a major concern but neighborhood groups are trying to make reporting violations easier.

**C. Closing Announcements (5 minutes)**

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## **Crime and Public Safety**

**Goal 2:** Create and support a community identity that is a safe place for community activities and events, and fosters a high quality of life.

### **Strategies**

1. Build community and law enforcement relationships to enforce existing laws, inform citizens, and reduce crime through greater presence (including foot presence, neighborhood watch and sheriff substations). For example:
  - a. Develop a citizen liaison process with law enforcement to monitor community issues and concerns.
  - b. Enforce the conditions for the sale of alcohol and tobacco licensing (e.g., drive through convenience stores, littering, and open container laws, and loitering).
  - c. Speeding on roadways.
  - d. Safety around schools and crosswalks.
  - e. Eliminate the sale and use drugs (especially around schools or other public recreation areas).
  - f. Continue to use Federal, state and other funds to address crime and safety.
2. Ensure adequate, proactive code enforcement to assist in regulating land-use that addresses the unique demographics of and improves community identity.
3. Monitor stable housing structures through proactive inspections and code enforcement.
4. Encourage the availability of affordable/attainable privately owned housing stock that is safe, decent and community compatible.
5. Enhance community appearance/beautification by enforcing existing littering, dumping, and signage regulations.
6. Encourage citizen, civic and homeowner associations, chambers of commerce, and other community groups participation in activities/projects that enhance and raise the appearance/beautification and raise standards of the community, such as; landscape design, gateway creation, public structures, signage, and community cleanups and work days.

**Goal 5b: Economic Development** - Provide opportunities for business growth and jobs in the Palm River Area

**Strategies**

1. Upgrade existing infrastructure, including water and wastewater services to support the developing suburban character of Palm River, including reviewing the Tampa Interlocal Agreement by 2009 to accommodate growth.
2. Recognize and support the existing industrial and port areas that contribute to the economy and character of Palm River.
3. Promote commercial development at scales that reflect the character of the scale of the community such as, mixed uses along U.S. Hwy 41/50<sup>th</sup> Street from Palm River Bridge to south of Causeway Boulevard, commercial nodes for neighborhood and community scale uses at specific intersections with appropriate design features.
4. Support a mix of residential types developed with new urbanism characteristics at appropriate locations.
5. Support marketing to potential new businesses that reflect the Palm River area.
6. Provide incentives to assist businesses such as incubators for existing and new start-ups, a business resource center, facade program, crime prevention efforts, and community merchant association.

## **Senior, Social, Health-Medical Services and Schools**

**Goal 6:** The community recognizes its need for appropriate community service centers, public and private schools, technical and College education opportunities; and hospital, library, day care, and aging services as growth occurs:

### **Strategies**

1. Secure future neighborhood schools sites concurrent with the rezoning for residential development.
  - a. Locate elementary schools internal to neighborhoods and avoid locations along arterial streets.
  - b. Provide after-school programs for youths.
  - c. Ensure adequate school capacity through the adoption and application of school concurrency.
2. Schools shall be integrated into neighborhood road network. Utilize co-location practices with schools, recreation, and other public service sites to provide multi-use activities.
3. Support development of a community college and/or vocational training center.
4. Provide appropriate facilities and services to meet the needs of the elderly, special needed and handicapped: including food, shelter, medical assessment and care.
5. Coordinate local efforts with state and other agencies to centrally locate and provide desired community programs.

# CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- Criminal activity  
shootings, break-ins, drive-by
- poor lighting
- neighborhood watches
- bike lanes/shared path
- homeless shelter
- lack of funding
- Resource center to combat crime
- Increased police patrol  
(sheriff)

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## 5b "Greater Palm River"

- Funding (lack of)
- Upgrade Infrastructure
- Capture importance of Infrastructure <sup>(water)</sup> <sub>(sewage)</sub> to help with economic development

# SENIOR, SOCIAL, HEALTH - MEDICAL SERVICES AND SCHOOLS

- Senior residential facility
- Urgent Care
- Nursing home
- Senior Daycare (upgrade)
- Animal Clinic
- Veteran's Services

# DISCUSSION RECOMM.

- Speak with Commissioners about lack of "enforcement" with Code Enforcement
- Remove "proactive code enforcement"
- Generic name of Plan