

Estero 2007
County and State Issues

County

- Identify areas that need to be preserved in the DRGR
- Develop a land use plan for the DRGR
- Prevent new mines from being developed along Corkscrew Road where they are incompatible with adjacent residential areas
- Support efforts to reduce the release of polluted waters from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee River and the Bays that it feeds
- Encourage the County to create a broad based public information and education program regarding the need for the DRGR and its need for better planning
- Encourage the County to develop a system for causing the County road system to catch up with the development that is causing the increase in traffic
- Determine how to index the County's Impact Fees for the impact of inflation on the cost of the infrastructure being financed
- Increase County funding for the Community Land Trust Fund
- Develop and implement a way to relieve new affordable housing units from the discouraging impact of Impact Fees
- Encourage the County to adopt a goal stating the amount or percentage of county-wide land that needs to be preserved along with policies that will allow the County to achieve that goal
- Identify all lands throughout the County that need to be conserved and use existing programs or create new programs to acquire those lands
- Encourage the County to expand the use of property tax revenues for road construction

Regional

- Encourage the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Commission to develop a comprehensive affordable housing plan for the region and coordinate it with all the governments included therein
- Push for election of the South Florida Water Management District Board rather than the current appointment procedure.

State

- Increase State funding for non-SIS state roads like US 41 between Corkscrew Road and San Carlos Park
- Encourage the State to provide greater matching funds for road construction to local governments that are providing the greatest amount or percentage of matching funds

- Increase the State's support for affordable and workforce housing using existing trust funds and the tax revenues that are pledged to this need
- Authorize the development of less comprehensive standards for Freestanding Emergency Departments
- Oppose efforts to weaken the Impact Fee programs that Lee County and its municipalities have developed in order to finance the new public facilities, from roads to schools, that we need to accommodate our growth and evaluate other road funding sources that Counties and Municipalities might use to diversify and meet the future financial needs of their road programs
- Support State funding for the purchase of environmentally sensitive and other land that needs to be conserved within the County and especially in the DRGR