

From: M. Rosenbauer [mailto:mrosenbauer@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2009 4:01 PM
To: Steve Auger
Cc: Charlie.Crist@MyFlorida.com; carlcrckt@yahoo.com; Jjz231@cs.com
Subject: CWHIP 06-28

Dear Mr. Auger,

I am in receipt of a copy of Mr. Jonathan Wolf's letter to you regarding the above mentioned project. I should like to take just a few moments of your time, if you'll allow me, to explain some truths, rather than a lot of the fiction you've been receiving from Mr. Wolf.

First of all, when the idea came up for a particular area in the City of St. Cloud, it was opposed because of zoning regulations and promises made to the community that the particular piece of property would never become multi family zoned, and would, in fact, remain zoned neighborhood commercial. I am intimately aware of this because I had been serving on the City Council at the time I made my motion to lock the property in to what the community had wanted. They never changed their minds, and although I completed 3 full terms and was not on the Council last year, they voted 4-0 in favor of the community, something that is often rarely seen when politicians become involved. The City Council indeed, did the correct thing in turning the project away.

The funding for this project was granted under what I would think was questionable, at best, circumstances. The original application claimed full community support and that, Mr. Auger, has never been the case, and most particularly is not the case today. Mr. Wolf has approached most of the labor unions in Osceola County for support and he's received none that I am aware of, including the Teacher's union! Upon learning of the lack of facts within the application, the County, at the urging of many, many taxpayers, allowed their promise of funding to expire and the County Commission, today, won't even bring it up for discussion! Quite frankly, Mr. Auger, the project lacks interest by the community, especially by those who would allegedly benefit by the project, public employees.

With new home construction prices falling so drastically, Mr. Auger, compared to the application's rental fees, one would be quite foolish to rent when they could purchase for much less. And no, Mr. Auger, I am not affiliated with any real estate companies, home builders, of any local or state businesses. I am simply a concerned citizen who does not want to see State funds wasted on a project which is not at all needed, or welcomed by a majority of the community and its leaders!

Mr. Wolf, in his letter to you, alleges "NINMBY" issues defeated the projects in St. Cloud. Not true at all, sir. It was simply a zoning issue promised to the community years ago, which Mr. Wolf was fully aware of at the time the process was in full swing. Unfortunately, the community was never given an opportunity to address the project until months after the application was submitted with information included that many would find difficult to believe or prove to be correct.

Now, Mr. Auger, it is your turn to field the emails, letters, and pressures from folks like us, common citizens, who simply do NOT want our State funds wasted on a project which also is not wanted, or needed. As for the Osceola Foundation being fully behind it, please understand there were at least 3 separate votes on supporting this project, two of them turned the project down, so please don't be misled that this is a widely accepted project in Osceola County. It is not. If anything, were a vote to be conducted amongst OSCEOLA citizens and taxpayers, the projects would clearly be turned away.

Please, Mr. Auger, protect our state funds by not approving this project, or have someone investigate the application to verify the truthfulness or accuracy of the application's claims. I promise, you'll be truly surprised!

Sincerely,

Mark Rosenbauer
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