

## REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT SOCIETY

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## BOARDROOM REPORT

### News from recent REIS board meetings

#### Luncheon Programs:

State Senator Burt Saunders will provide an inside look at legislative action and key issues at September luncheon.

Robert Ball, executive director of Lee County Port Authority, will be the featured speaker at the October luncheon.

#### Horizon Council:

The Horizon Council's 2008 Industry Appreciation Luncheon, co-sponsored by REIS, takes place Sept. 19 at Harborside Event Center.

#### Education Programs Planned:

The popular annual Development Workshop will be at Pelican Preserve on Wednesday, September 17. Program Chair Mary Gibbs has updated the program to focus on changes in development regulations, impact fees, and permitting procedures.

#### Annual Social Event:

REIS Social Committee Chairs Kim Donnelly and Janie Hooker are planning the gala annual REIS social event for November 13. This year's festive gathering will be at The Edison, at Fort Myers Country Club.

#### Reception for Commissioners:

The REIS reception to honor the new Lee County Board of Commissioners will be December 10 at Edison National Bank. The bi-annual event is hosted by Edison National Bank and Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., Land Use Division.

#### Legislative Issues:

Lee County Impact Fees: Schools and road impact fee studies are due soon and will be scheduled for public hearings in September. Commissioners approved an extension on expiring commercial permits, allowing them to be renewed with original impact fees.

## LAND DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP!

REIS presents "Keys to the Land Development Approval Process in Southwest Florida," a half-day workshop, on September 17. Join us to learn:

*Why is "due diligence" so important?*

*Which agencies have jurisdiction over your property?*

*What's new with impact fees?*

*The latest rules, ordinances, fees, and regulations.*

*Tips to expedite your approvals.*

The workshop features presentations by Mary Gibbs, Director of Community Development Dept., Dave Douglas, Professional Engineer and Principal with David Douglas Associates, Inc., Stephanie Keyes, planner and Director of Public Affairs for Realtor® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc., and Lee County staff.. The event takes place in the Magnolia Room at Pelican Preserve Town Center in Fort Myers. \$45 for REIS members and \$95 for all others. Details and registration forms on "EVENTS" page of REIS web site.

## DR/GR PUBLIC HEARING SEPT. 5

Lee County Commissioners will hold a special meeting at 1pm on September 5 to hear public comment on the recent study of land uses in the 83,000 acre Density Reduction / Groundwater Resource Area (DR/GR) in southeastern Lee County. "Prospects for Lee County," a report by Dover, Kohl and Partners, on the DR/GR was reviewed by Lee County Commissioners August 1 but no action was taken. The current moratorium on mining in the DR/GR expires in September.

REIS member Dennis Gilkey resigned from the DR/GR advisory committee noting that *"The recommendations of the Dover Kohl report are so far away from a feasible solution, and based on such erroneous assumptions and reasoning, that it indicates to me that the recommendations were pre-determined from the start."*

The study is at Community Development Dept. website: <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/CommunityPlans/SELCDRGR/FinalReport.htm>.



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## LEE MINING REGULATION HEARINGS

Public hearings on revisions to Lee County Land Development Code (LDC) regarding mining are scheduled for 5 pm, Aug. 26 and Sept. 9, in Commission Chambers. The proposed amendment is at [www.lee-county.com/dcd/](http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/)

## STORMWATER RULES WORKSHOP

The next workshop is August 29, 9:30 am—12:30 pm, at South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Clewiston Field Station. Contact is Jose Gomez, staff engineer, 800-432-2045 or [jgomez@sfwmd.gov](mailto:jgomez@sfwmd.gov). Further information, maps, and workshop schedules regarding Rule Development for C-139 Basin Everglades Regulatory Program are online at [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov). Follow links for: What We Do; Permitting / Regulation; Rules, Statutes, & Criteria; tab for Rulemaking.

## EAGLE ORDINANCE

Final public hearing on proposed changes to the Eagle Protection Ordinance is scheduled for 5 pm, Sept. 23, in Lee County Commission Chambers.

## ALICO CONNECTOR TO LEHIGH

Lee County Dept. of Transportation has determined the preferred route for extension of Alico Road to State Road 82 and Lehigh Acres. From the bend on Alico Road, the route extends due east approximately 1 mile, then runs north, west of Green Meadows Road, and connects with Sunshine Blvd. at State Road 82. The route is in the DR/GR area east of Southwest Florida International Airport. The project has not been funded.

## LEE GOVERNMENT NEEDS YOU

There are several openings on the Executive Regulatory Oversight Committee for professionals in real estate and development. The committee advises Lee County on development regulations. Contact Mary Gibbs, Lee County Community Development Dept., 533-8345.

## CONTRIBUTING TO REIS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

REIS members have contributed over \$8,300 to the REIS Scholarship Foundation thus far in 2008. The Foundation thanks the following contributors:

APJ, LLC  
Busey Bank  
Paul Eckenrode  
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In 2006, REIS established the REIS Scholarship Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)3 charitable entity, to enable REIS members and others in the business community to contribute to a scholarship fund. REIS administers the Foundation and underwrites all expenses, allowing 100% of contributions to be awarded as scholarships. The scholarships are offered to students at FGCU, Edison College, Hodges University, and Southwest Florida College. Recipients of Foundation scholarships include:

REIS Scholarship Chairman Tom Woodyard is accepting contributions to the REIS Scholarship Foundation to fund 2 additional awards this fall. Information on the program is at <http://reis-swfl.org/scholarships.htm> or by contacting Tom at (239) 425-6000.

  
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