

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Lee Plan Amendments: Lee Commissioners will be transmitting numerous proposed amendments to the Lee Plan to Florida Dept. of Community Affairs (DCA) in December. Included is adoption of new population projections for 2030 and increased allocations of developable acreage in the county's planning districts. Formal adoption of the amendments are expected in March, subject to comments from DCA.

REIS Scholarship Foundation: We are now requesting donations from REIS members for 2007 scholarship awards. Donation information is also on the web site or by contacting Scholarship Committee Chairman Tom Woodyard, 239.425.6012.

Membership Renewal: REIS membership renewal notices have been mailed. Members who have not received the notices are urged to contact Bill Burdette (bill@burdetteinc.com or 239.936.1404) ASAP with their contact information.

REIS DUES MUST BE PAID BY JAN. 5TH

REIS Memberships not renewed by Jan. 5th will expire and be offered to applicants on the waiting list. There are over 100 now on the waiting list, to replace any members who's 2007 dues are not received on time.

REIS COMMITTEE OPENINGS

REIS members are welcomed to participate on a variety of committees, to plan programs, workshops, legislative action, social events and other activities. Contact Gerald Hendry, 239.337.0555 for more information.

MORE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

REIS Scholarship Foundation is awarding \$2,500 scholarships to International College students Lori Parker of Lehigh Acres and Lisa Lee of Naples. Both students are in the Legal Studies program at International College.

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MARKET INTELLIGENCE

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Jan. 9 - Real Estate Market Outlook by Mike Timmerman, Southwest Florida research analyst with Hanley Wood Market Intelligence, at REIS January luncheon meeting. At Pelican Preserve Town Center in Fort Myers. Reservations required by Jan. 4. Details on Meeting Programs page.

Jan. 25 - SWFL Real Estate Outlook Conference with economist Hank Fishkind and local real estate experts. Details at www.southwestfl.cimnet.com.

Feb. 20-21 - 2007 Market Watch with former REIS president Frank D'Alessandro. Details at www.marketwatch2007.com

Feb. 22 - Urban Land Institute Annual Winter Institute with Greg Miller, senior economist with SunTrust Bank, and economist Hank Fishkind, of Fishkind & Associates. Details at <http://swflorida.uli.org>

REMINDER: IMPACT FEE DEADLINE

Increased road impact fees will take effect in unincorporated Lee County Feb. 1. Permits must be applied for by Jan. 31 and issued by June 29 to beat the increase. The complete fee schedule is in the ordinance, available at www.lee-county.com/dcd. Questions may be directed to the Impact Fee Coordinator, via email to ennisam@leegov.com

PUNTA GORDA ENACTS PARKING FEE

Punta Gorda City Council passed Ordinance ZA-10-06, amending the Land Development Regulations, to assess new development in the downtown area for public parking. A \$10,000 flat fee will be assessed for each parking space not provided on site. With one space required for each 60 sq. ft., a 6,000 sq. ft. building will be required to pay \$1,000,000.

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REIS HONORS LEE COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner Janes

REIS welcomed the Lee Board of County Commissioners with a December reception at Edison National Bank.



Commissioner Mann



Commissioner Judah

Commissioner Bigelow

Newly elected Commissioners Brian Bigelow and Frank Mann, re-elected Commissioner Tammy Hall, and returning Commissioners Bob



Commissioner Hall

Janes and Ray Judah attended and shared their ideas and goals with REIS members and their guests.



REIS President Stan Stouder welcomed the newly installed Board of County Commissioners and introduced them to REIS.

The festive social event was jointly sponsored by Edison

National Bank and Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt.



Former REIS President Robbie Roepstorff welcomed all to Edison National Bank.

CAPE CORAL TO OFFER PERMIT REVIEW PROJECT MANAGERS

City of Cape Coral has included funding for "Permit Review Project Managers" in the 2007 budget. These Project Managers will be contractors, rather than city employees, and are being deployed as an incentive for an investor or developer to commit to build a project beneficial to the City by a certain date. The City must also meet specific timelines in the permitting process and the Permit Review Project Manager will oversee the permitting process and keep the project on track. The investor or developer pays for the Project Manager's services only if the City meets the permitting deadline. The City pays for the services if the deadline is missed. For details, contact the Economic Development Office, 239.574.0444.

CONGRESS RENEWS TAX RELIEF

Just minutes before adjourning, Congress approved a bill to renew real estate related tax provisions. The provisions were set to expire Dec. 31st but are now extended to the end of 2007, including:

- 15-year cost recovery period for qualified leasehold improvements, applies to property placed in service after Dec. 31, 2005.
- Deduction for energy-efficient commercial buildings is extended for one year. Applies to buildings that reduce energy and power consumption by 50% compared to ASHRAE standard. Deduction would equal cost of energy-efficient material installed during construction, with maximum of \$1.80 psf.
- Expensing brownfields remediation costs will be allowed through the end of 2007. Permits expensing costs associated with cleaning up hazardous sites.

LEE REZONING INFORMATION UPDATED

Revised Rezoning Checklists and Applications are now online at www.lee-county.com/dcd/ Further information available from Karen Hutcherson, 239.479.8543



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