

From: wcicinc1893
To: [Linda Cox](#); [Kevin Freeman](#); [Alicia Rosenthal](#)
Subject: Sunrise Estates
Date: Sunday, September 7, 2025 11:23:28 PM

City of Fort Pierce

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Mayor and Commissioners,

I'm writing this to follow up on the commission meeting on July 21st, regarding the zoning request for Sunrise Lakes. While I was deeply relieved when the zoning change was not initially approved, I find myself anxious as the next hearing in September approaches as I will be out of town, and I feel it is one that deserves your full attention.

Having lived and worked in St. Lucie County for 47 years, I've had the privilege of watching this area grow and evolve. I know the neighborhoods here, the people, and the history- from Ft. Pierce's unique historic homes and charming streets to the untouched beauty of our beaches and the Indian River Lagoon. This area is special, and it's uniqueness is what draws so many of us to call it home.

But with the proposed development, I can't help but feel as though we're slowly watching the heart of our small community being chipped away, piece by piece. This is not just about land or zoning- it's about preserving the character that makes our home so unique. We all understand growth is inevitable, but why must it come at the cost of the very charm and authenticity that attracted us to this place? It's heartbreaking to think that what makes us special could eventually be replaced with concrete and overcrowded streets.

The developer behind Sunrise Lakes, in my opinion, overpaid for raw land with no improvements. I can only assume that the drive for profit is behind this request, but the consequences fall squarely on the shoulders of those of us who call White City home. I've been a realtor for 28 years and I've always advised my clients to thoroughly research a property and it's surroundings before making a purchase. This is something I strongly believe in. So, why should a developer who, no doubt, understood the zoning restrictions when they bought the land, now be allowed to change the very zoning that made the land valuable in the first place?

What's even more troubling is the thought that a developer from New York, with no long standing ties to the community, could potentially override the interests of those of us who have worked hard and paid taxes for decades. White City is not just a place to us- it's our home, our history and our future. I urge you to consider the impact this development will have on our community, and to stand with us, the people who have nurtured and cared for this neighborhood for so many years.

Isn't it the responsibility of the Mayor and Commissioners to apply the code and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents? This includes not only the physical needs of the area but also the preservation of its uniqueness. We cannot afford to throw away our historic areas for the sake of unchecked development.

On another note, I would like to address one of the commissioners concerns raised during the hearing about how or why they can approve or deny similar requests. As a Real Estate professional, I know there is no one-size fits all approach. We are taught that appraising land is an art. It requires experience and knowledge of the area. I trust that you, as elected officials, also have that experience with the neighborhoods you represent and know the residents and character of each area you were elected to make decisions for and protect the communities integrity. This is why I hope you will stand with us in opposing this zoning change.

Additionally, I want to mention that I am a member of the St. Lucie County Historical commission and am passionate about all our historic buildings and neighborhoods. Not just White City. The heart of a community lies in its historic roots. I encourage you to take a drive down Sunrise Blvd., starting at Midway Rd., the heart of White City. You'll quickly realize why this zoning change is not a good fit for the neighborhood.

I know my concerns are long, but this issue affects us deeply. Thank you for your time and all you do for the City. I can tell you do not take your responsibility lightly, and for that, I am truly grateful.

Sincerely,
Judy Biglin

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.