

Your name
Your address

The Honorable Adam Botana
Sunshine Professional Center, Suite 2215
9240 Bonita Beach Road Southeast
Bonita Springs, FL 34135-4251
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Dear Representative Botana:

I reside in House District 76 and am writing to you as a constituent. I am very concerned about the City of Cape Coral's (CoCC) "Enclave Annexation Strategy" presented by the CoCC Committee of the Whole (COW) to City Council on 3/9/2022.¹ In it the CoCC calls for the annexation of 12 enclaves by Special Act.

Special act will likely be brought forth at this August's Lee County Legislative Delegation for sponsorship into a bill. I am looking for you to oppose sponsorship of the bill on the following merits:

1. The residents of these enclaves do not wish to be annexed into the City of Cape Coral.
2. Annexation of the enclaves, though in House District-77, moves the city boundary westward closer to Matlacha which is located in District-76. Many of us still remember the CoCC's 2016 annexation of the DD Bait Shop property on the east side of the Matlacha bridge. This annexation was overturned in 2019 because it was not "contiguous" to the city. The city's westward expansion will one day make it contiguous, and annexations by Special Act can then occur in Matlacha, then later into Pine Island.
3. Currently development in Matlacha and Pine Island are limited by the Lee County Land Development Code Chapter 33, Articles VI and III respectively. Annexation into the CoCC would remove Lee County as the governing body for these areas. Thereby, removing the Lee County Land Development Code. The CoCC development codes are the antithesis of the old Florida lifestyle preserved in Lee County Land Development Code.

Of special interest 2003 HB0421 sponsored by Rep. Kottkamp. It too was a Special Act to annex enclaves in the CoCC. After House and Senate passage, due to public outcry the bill's sponsor Rep. Kottkamp, recommend the Governor veto it, which he did.

Sincerely,

Your name

Enclosed:

Governor's veto of 2003 HB0421

Pine Island Eagle newspaper article by Kevin Duffy, printed June 11, 2003

¹ https://www.capecoral.gov/departments/department/clerk/agendas_and_videos.php, Meeting date 3/9/2022, Meeting Type COW, PDF Pg 164-250