

The South Seas Club Board of Directors emailed the Commissioner's yesterday. Ruane has an automatic generated response. We wanted to share this with our Owners for awareness, feedback, and response directly from Commissioner Kevin Ruane.

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I am writing this statement to clarify the half-truths and rhetoric because of last week's Lee County Board of Commissioner meeting where we unanimously set a hearing for potential changes to the LDC in Lee County. The vote was to set up a public hearing and nothing else. In my sixteen years in public office, I have participated in many public hearings where the outcomes have varied. The outcomes have been denial, the outcomes have been continuance, the outcomes have been rejection and the outcomes have been modifications.

On June 2, 2023, I requested in writing to the city manager and city attorney to postpone item number eight on the agenda for the vote of setting a public hearing for LDC changes. The email was sent to both the county manager and county attorney as well requesting the item be pulled from the county commissioners. The county manager denied both of my requests.

I was elected to be the Chairman of the Long-Term Recovery Task force for Resilient Lee. I have focused on working on maximizing recovery, planning, and protecting us from further hurricane storm surges.

On January 17, 2023, I requested staff to bring back potential alternatives to the LDC for our review and it wasn't until June 1, 2023, that I was made aware of the potential changes. I was in favor of looking at standardizing the height for all unincorporated Lee County for resiliency to 35 feet.

**To twist my vote in misleading statements that I am in favor of radical changes is totally false.** I voted to move to a public hearing on June 20, 2023, as my prior attempts to postpone were rejected by the county manager. To influence the community that I have voted for change is disingenuous and unfortunate, as I have worked endlessly for 16 years in office to improve our community.

Lastly, I have answered emails and phones calls through 10 am June 10, 2023, but I am grossly disappointed that the emails twist the facts that the public hearing was approved as well as changes to the LDC.

At the June 20, 2023, meeting, we will have information presented to us to vote on moving forward, rejecting, deferring, or modifying any potential changes to the LDC. Any action taken on June 20, 2023, will determine the next step of potentially sending it to the hearing examiner who will review and the results for a zoning hearing. I believe that hearing would be after our recess from break on August 1, 2023.

**I am open to considering a height increase from 28 feet to 35 feet.**

**I am not in favor of adding 40 additional feet to any building.**

**I am not in favor of eliminating restrictions on density.**

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