

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: March 3, 2009

Date Submitted: February 13, 2009

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Lindsay Stevens, Assistant County Administrator
Melissa Corbett, Planner II

Subject: Request Board Consideration of Sunset Date Extension for the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests the Board to consider extending the sunset date for the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development.

Background:

The Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development, "The Committee", was first established by the Board of County Commissioners in February of 2005. The members worked diligently on important issues such as septic tank use throughout the County. However, the sunset date of The Committee passed and the group stopped meeting.

Acknowledging the importance of citizen participation, the Board approved the re-establishment of The Committee on May 21, 2007 with the passing of Resolution 07-17. Accordingly, the group began to meet again and discuss critical topics relating to needed infrastructure within the County. After several months of work, the group's Chair, John Shuff, updated the Board on the group's progress and provided recommendations from The Committee at the January 7, 2008 Board meeting. The April 7, 2008 public hearing of the Board also brought another update from The Committee with their thoughts on the use of Eminent Domain in acquiring right-of-way for infrastructure projects.

Shortly after the April update, the Board requested The Committee to partner with staff in addressing needed infrastructure improvements in the Wakulla Gardens subdivision. Committee members and County staff held multiple meetings at the Public Library to discuss which improvements would be the most vital to this subdivision and what funding mechanisms were available for implementation of such improvements. The findings and conclusions of these discussions were accepted in a status report at the August 18, 2008 Board Meeting.

A January 13, 2009 Workshop brought about another opportunity for The Committee to update the Board, and this opportunity was used to acquaint the new Commissioners with items the group had been working on over the last year.

Analysis:

As discussed above, The Committee has worked diligently since it's re-establishment on a variety of issues. The Committee members feel that there are still important infrastructure issues that should be addressed and that through their dedication they can be of further assistance in this matter. Therefore, the Board is now being asked to consider extending the sunset date of The Committee. The current Charter includes a sunset, or expiration, date for the group on September 30, 2009.

While the Board may ultimately consider any sunset date of their choosing, an extension for one or two years could be suggested. Should an extension be granted, the determination of the length of the extension could be based upon the number and types of issues the Board desires for the group to research and provide recommendations on. Therefore, the Board may also want to use this opportunity to consider setting priorities for The Committee to focus on.

Options:

1. Approve an extension of the sunset date for the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development.
2. Do not approve an extension of the sunset date for the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #3

Attachment(s):

1. Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Development Charter
2. Draft Resolution for Extension of sunset date