



# 2024 Land Development Code Amendments - Public Meeting -

## Development Services Advisory Committee - Land Development Review Subcommittee

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
3:00 p.m.**

**2800 N. Horseshoe Dr., Naples, FL  
Growth Management Community Development Department Building  
Conference Room 609/610**

### ***Agenda:***

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Old Business
4. New Business
  - a. PL20230012905 – Updates to Golf Course Conversion – Intent to Convert Process
  - b. PL20230018350 – Updates to Requirement for Removal of Prohibited Exotic Vegetation
5. Public Comments
6. Upcoming DSAC-LDR Subcommittee Meeting Dates:
  - a. Tuesday, April 16, 2024
  - b. Tuesday, July 16, 2024
  - c. Tuesday, October 15, 2024
7. Adjourn

## LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT

**PETITION**

PL20230012905

**ORIGIN**

Board of County  
Commissioners (Board)

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT**

This LDC amendment shall clarify the Board of County Commissioners and Collier County Planning Commission has the discretion to address, on a “case-by-case” basis, a reduction in the required average minimum Greenway width for a golf course conversion application during the rezoning process. It provides an opportunity for the public’s review of the existing golf course conversion process, previous experiences with Intent to Convert (ITC) applications, and offer recommendations to the Board. Procedural changes to the Administrative Code are part of this amendment.

**HEARING DATES**

BCC           TBD  
CCPC         TBD  
DSAC         TBD  
DSAC-LDR   01-16-24

**LDC SECTION TO BE AMENDED**

5.05.15   Conversion of Golf Courses

### ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

**DSAC-LDR**  
TBD

**DSAC**  
TBD

**CCPC**  
TBD

**BACKGROUND**

On February 14, 2023, the Board directed staff to bring back a LDC amendment to “clarify” that the Board has the discretion on a “case-by-case basis” to reduce the minimum average greenway width of 100 feet and no less than 75 feet at any one location during the rezoning process. Furthermore, on April 11, 2023, the Board recognized the ITC application process has not been effective, as initially intended, and directed staff to bring back recommendations and offer amendments in greater detail with any analysis that could improve the process, if not, the Board could repeal the Intent to Convert process.

Currently, the LDC text in LDC section 5.05.15C4.a. and b., for golf course conversion application procedures, stipulate “*Deviations to LDC section 5.05.15 shall be prohibited; further, deviations to other sections of the LDC shall be shared with the stakeholders at a SOM or NIM.*” However, there is flexible text, provided in LDC section 5.05.15 G.2. a. Development Standards for the Greenway, which states, “*The Board may approve an alternative design that was vetted at the Stakeholder Outreach Meeting, as provided in LDC section 5.05.15 C.3.*”. Additionally, LDC section 5.05.15 G.2. b. sets forth another standard that requires, “*A minimum of 35% of the gross area of the conversion project be dedicated to the Greenway*”. These greenway provisions have resulted in conflicting interpretations for golf course conversions to non-golf course uses, particularly when agricultural zoned property has been conditionally approved for golf course use without an integrated residential development plan or recorded plat or the inclusion for a homeowner’s association to benefit golf course purchasers and their successors in interest and the abutting property is zoned non-residential.

Since the Board adopted a framework and process for the conversion of constructed golf courses to a different land use on March 28, 2017, the County has received three Intent to Convert (ITC) applications for Golf Course Conversions (Golden Gate Golf Course, Riviera Golf Club of Naples, and Evergreen, aka. Ironwood). Each zoned Golf Course and Recreational Use District - “GC” have completed the required two Stakeholder Outreach Meetings (SOMs). While observing these SOMs, staff found the relative pastoral open space views and whether they are

reasonably sustained or mitigated during the ITC process and subsequent golf course rezoning phase require extensive detailed design reviews. These design details can occur at different times during the development review process and at different phases, dependant upon the use, proposed buildings, and can vary for specific development tracts. Currently, only three out of a total of eleven GC zoned properties have completed the County’s ITC application process. An inventory, dated 2017, of the potential remaining 57 golf courses (zoned PUD) for conversion within the unincorporated area of the County with their respective acreage and zoning are listed in Exhibit E, Golf Course Inventory 2023. Only three existing golf courses are less than 40 acres in size. Two new golf courses (The Kinsale Golf Club and The National at Ave Maria) brings the total golf course inventory up to 71 since 2017. In 2023, Rivergrass Village was approved for a future 18 hole golf course.

After the Board’s zoning approval, two examples of the need to reduce the required greenway width occurred for the Golden Gate Golf Course Mixed-Use Planned Unit of Development to accomodate detailed site development designs for the State of Florida Veteran’s Nursing Home (Community Facility Use Site) and Rural Lands Neighborhood (Affordable Housing Site). Both building projects were determined to be in the public’s best interest and the Board justified a reduction in greenway widths for each project which required a rezoning amendment.

With an early intervention public hearing process, a basis toward better knowledge and communication can be built resting on stakeholder opinions of golf course redevelopment. This process starts as an act of stakeholders working together in a joint project and effort with the developer. Additionally, research has shown an applicant’s proactive approach and earlier engagement process with stakeholders results in a more successful outcome to reactive contentious responses. This amendment seeks to improve that process, achieve Board directives, and build upon staff’s previous ITC conversion experiences as listed in Exhibit B.

As participants in the planning process, the Board had received letters from the Lakewood Community Services Association, Inc. who requested the Board to “...solicit input from the various stakeholders, review the ITC Ordinance and make recommendations to the Commissioners, based upon staff’s experience to date, as to amendments that could improve upon the existing ITC Ordinance.”, and from Riveria Golf Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. seeking the Board’s direction to direct staff to “...(2) review and make recommendations to the Commissioners that would improve upon the existing code.” In recognition of these letters and public comments received to date, staff is seeking the Board’s direction to affirm and insitute improvements based upon staff’s prior experiences with the ITC conversion process and stakeholder outreach meetings. This will allow staff to continue to monitor all golf course conversions and offer recommendations on a “*case-by-case basis*” in the future.

***What was the nexus for 100 feet greenway requirement?***

It was in response to recognize golf courses are a community asset and the community’s concern for when golf courses are no longer viable, the changing economic golf industry, declining player participation and most importantly the impact to adjacent and neighboring property owners. The County took early steps to avoid or minimize lengthy stumbling blocks for the redevelopment of constructed golf courses that are costly and time sensitive. With an early intervention process, a basis of better knowledge and communication can be built resting on stakeholder’s opinions of golf course redevelopment and that collaboration results in the best outcome for all parties. This is why the process would start as an act of stakeholders working together in a joint project to assess the issues and outline time requirements before filing a formal golf course conversion application. When there are reactive contentious responses, research has shown a greater proactive and successful outcome occurs for methods and processes seeking recommendations based on the input received.

The 100 feet greenway requirement had been based upon several other municipalities, counties, and projects that introduced a greenway, including but not limited to: President’s Place (100 feet), Royal Oak Golf Course (50 to 75 feet), City of Palm Coast (150 feet setback from multifamily platted lots), Lexington, SC (100 feet from residential), Prince George County, MD (150 to 300 feet dependent on the adjoining land use), Miami Dade County (Golf courses are designated as Greenways by the Growth Management Plan).

### ***A Historical Perspective to Collier County's Golf Course Zoning Buffer Setback and Rational Nexus***

Staff reviewed the prior history for buffer setback standards within a golf course zoned district and the 2017 Board's action to establish a Greenway for golf course conversions. Prior to October 8, 1968, when the Board of County Commissioners first established zoning regulations (Section 11.22) for a golf course district and golf courses as a principal use with a minimum 50 feet buffer, golf courses were an allowed use within the Single Family Residential Zoning District R-1. Beginning on October 8, 1968, "plans for the golf course or other outdoor recreation facility and all accessory use had to be submitted to the Planning Commission, and construction occurred in accordance with the approved plans and specifications." Further, "Such plans shall be processed in the same manner as a subdivision plat." One of the general requirements stated is that "building and activities shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet from abutting residential districts and the setback area shall be attractively *maintained to act as a buffer.*"

Later, by Ordinance 76-30, the golf course plan approval requirements changed to require the Director of the Department of Community Development to review plans and approve their construction. The "perimeter boundaries" of such plans had to "be recorded in the same manner as a subdivision plat" and the buildings required a minimum setback of 50 feet from the abutting residential districts with the setback area being appropriately landscaped and *maintained to act as a buffer zone.* These provisions remained the same even when Ordinance 82-02 was adopted.

It was by Ordinance 91-102, that the "Minimum Yard Requirement" of the Golf Course District was modified to specify the following; "For any yard abutting residential designated property, the minimum yard shall be fifty feet (50') with landscaping and buffering as required for the district or use with the most similar types, densities and intensities of use." The maximum density was not applicable (Section 2.2.1.4.5) with the exception for a maximum of two residential units for use by golf course employees in conjunction with the operation of the golf course as a principal use. This provision was subsequently modified by Ordinance 92-73 to state the following; "A fifty foot (50") yard setback requirement together with landscaping and buffering pursuant to Section 2.4.7.4 buffer type "B", shall be provided adjacent to any residential district which is contiguous to the area of the golf course upon which is located the clubhouse, and adjacent to all maintenance buildings. The length of the buffer shall be of sufficient distance to block the view of recreational activities, parking and any activities relative to any other buildings, structures or outside activities from contiguous residences."

By the time Ordinance 04-41 was adopted, the site design standards for a golf course (including hiking trails, walkways, multi-paths and observation decks, passive recreation areas, and disc golf) as principal uses, was restructured (Section 4.02.01, Table 2.1) to state the lot design, building dimension standards other than a maximum 35 feet building height and setbacks are none for the golf course. For the accessory uses: a clubhouse, pro shop, community center building, restaurant associated with the golf course, and golf course maintenance building, there is a 50 foot setback requirement applied to the external boundaries of the golf course district, inclusive of separately platted buffer tracts. Deviations to the adopted setback or buffer requirement could only occur at the time of rezoning approval for a planned unit of development.

With over 30 contributing professional authors, including Nicklaus Design, Palmer Course Design Company, golf course and landscape architects, Desmond Muirhead and Guy L. Rando co-authored the text book, "*Golf Course Development and Real Estate*" for the Urban Land Institute in 1994. In chapter four, the design of the golf course's scenic landscape is discussed as Ecological Sanctuaries™ in every project. The golf industry's commitment to environmental awareness and stewardship is evident from the layout of a course that reinforces the concept by maintaining strong, contiguous connections to the overall open space network with ecological zones that relate to the types of habitats found on a golf course. Exhibit D, illustrates the typical concept section for the design of adjacent fairways with a minimum *maintained 50' buffer to 100' buffer* as an ecological zone. This well-known ecological zone is separate from the primary rough (15' to 45') within the golf course fairway and a secondary rough refer to as an "Enhancement/Creation Zone".

The importance of open space use through the conversion of a course, is highly recognized and most recently acknowledged by the National Golf Foundation in 2022, “Repurposing of Golf Courses” Report, which states “Ecosystem services are the recent trend for analyzing the best use for converting open land, like a golf course, to other uses, including those responding to the threats of climate change.”

It is notable that for the Rural Fringe Mixed-Use District, “...golf course turf areas (pursuant to LDC Section 2.03.08 A.2.b.(6)) within the RFMU Receiving Lands, shall only be located within 100 feet of the Greenbelt boundaries (interior and exterior boundary);”. This buffer setback distance is greater than the aforementioned 50 foot building setback yard requirement.

Other notable facts identified by staff during the prior ITC conversion applications review are the following :

- Every golf course reuse will have a considerably greater engineering and redevelopment effect on nearby infrastructure than the golf course use.
- A greater emphasis should be given to alternative conceptual development plans.
- The golf course land owner is free to operate the golf course and existing underlying zoned uses, including recreational facilities, without an undue burden by the County.
- The underlying existing zoning uses do not render an existing golf course’s land un-usable.
- Pursuant to the FLUE of the GMP, Golf Courses located within the designated receiving lands that are greater than 40 acres in size must provide a minimum of 70% useable open space for the Rural Fringe Mixed Use District. If an affordable housing project is developed, that percentage may be reduced to 50 % useable open space.
- The ITC process and its associated steps require a better explanation, rather than by the applicant, from an unbiased party, such as an assigned planner or a facilitator. It could be improved if the applicant submitted an orderly, concise set of documents with visual graphics.
- When the outreach and presentation were solely conducted by one or two of the applicant’s representatives, coupled with an inadequate amount of time for participant input, the process became more palatable to an intrinsic developer resulting in the reluctance to make minor changes to documents that stifled an open, honest, and collaborative manner.
- In a prior SOM, staff observed stakeholders were agitated and restless when the applicant dominated the discussions, ignoring their concerns, questions, and unwilling to compromise. Staff still supports the ITC review process that offers an earlier insight to the material issues of the project and provides benefit to both parties.
- When an applicant attempts to dominate the other, either by ignoring needs of the other side or by not giving them a chance to express concerns or desires, conflict arised to a heightened level. When conflict did occur, it costs both sides drastic time and money to reach a resolution if neither side is willing to compromise their position. There is good reason to start an earlier discussion rather than defer the outreach to the applicant’s rezoning petition.
- It is important to have an open and balanced planning process for golf course redevelopment from the beginning to avoid sources of conflict which the ITC is the beginning of that process.

The following eight Rural Fringe Mixed Use District zoned golf courses are located within the GMP designated Receiving Lands: PUD-Boyne South Golf Course, PUD-Old Florida Golf Club, PUD-Golf Club of the Everglades, A-Twin Eagles Golf and CC (36 holes), A-CU Bonita Bay Club East (36 holes), A-CU Hideout Golf Club, A-CU Calusa Pines, and A-CU Links of Naples. The conversion of these golf courses are subject to the aforementioned limitation and the respective underlying zoned uses. Both the Links of Naples and Boyne South Golf Course are located within the Coastal High Hazard Area. The maximum residential density for the properties that are Agricultural/Rural Designated receiving lands is one (1) per 5 gross acres and one (1) per gross acre with transfer of development rights (TDRs) credits.

Based upon the resolution adopted on October 8, 1968, and the research of other community standards, as updated by Exhibit C, staff recommends that no less than a minimum 50' greenway buffer width be maintained unless there is an alternative design that would combine the total required greenway project acreage into one or more parcels. When specific project characteristics are deemed to be a benefit to the public health, safety, and welfare of the public, the Planning Commission and Board during the rezoning process may grant a further reduction.

After the ITC process has been finalized, this amendment requires an environmental assessment and audit to be completed prior to the filing of a petition to convert a golf course in a “conversion application”. An environmental attorney, Cristian Lumpkin states in Builder Magazine, June 19, 2018, the following: “Golf course assessment and cleanup are complex, time-consuming and expensive. It requires hiring an environmental consultant with specific technical expertise and experience in golf course remediation to avoid wasting time and money on inappropriate investigation and remediation. Conducting adequate and timely environmental due diligence is essential because these sites tend to have residual soil and groundwater contamination related to the legal use of agro-chemicals...over a long period of time. It also entails ongoing coordination with the relevant regulatory agency to ensure that the agency understands the client's desired endpoint and agrees with the strategy to achieve it, which can often depend on the proposed future land use.”

Requiring an environmental assessment and audit for soil and/or groundwater sampling prior to the approval of an early work authorization (EWA), site development plan (SDP), or subdivision plat (PPL) proves to be beneficial, as observed by staff after the costly experience with the redevelopment of the County’s Golden Gate golf course.

This amendment seeks to promote better conversations between the developer and existing residential community. It clarifies the differences between the ITC and conversion application process, modifies the greenway buffer width, and allows the Board and Planning Commission the flexibility, on a “case-by-case” basis, to alter the Greenway during the golf course conversion process.

Contextual and procedural changes to specific sections of the Administrative Code are presented in Exhibit A.

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**FISCAL & OPERATIONAL IMPACTS**

The cost associated with advertising the Ordinance amending the Land Development Code are estimated at \$1,008.00. Funds are available within Unincorporated Area General Fund (1011), Zoning & Land Development Cost Center (138319).

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**GMP CONSISTENCY**

To be provided by Comprehensive Planning Staff after first review.

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**EXHIBITS:** A) Administrative Code Changes B) Process and Staff Improvements  
C) Other Communities Standards D) Golf Course Conceptual Design E) Golf Course Inventory 2023

Amend the LDC as follows:

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**5.05.15 Conversion of Golf Courses**

A. Purpose and Intent. The purpose of this section is to assess ~~and mitigate~~ the impact of golf course conversion on real property ~~by requiring outreach with stakeholders during the design phase of the conversion project and specific development standards to ensure compatibility with the existing land uses.~~ The intent is to involve the public and require the applicant to engage residents, property owners, and the community in outreach meetings early in the conceptual design phase of a conversion project and examine compatibility issues to existing neighborhoods and build an early consensus on alternative uses. By involving the public early in the process, the application can be responsive to the neighborhood concerns and avoid delays, continuances and appeals.

For the purposes of this section, property owners within 1,000 feet of a golf course shall hereafter be referred to as stakeholders.

~~1. Stakeholder outreach process. The intent is to provide a process to cultivate consensus between the applicant and the stakeholders on the proposed conversion. In particular, this section is designed to address the conversion of golf courses surrounded, in whole or in part, by residential uses or lands zoned residential.~~

~~2. Development standards. It is the intent of the specific development standards contained herein to encourage the applicant to propose a conversion project with land uses and amenities that are compatible and complementary to the existing neighborhoods. Further, the applicant is encouraged to incorporate reasonable input provided by stakeholders into the development proposal.~~

Participation and/or completion of the intent to convert application process shall not imply that a golf course conversion has received or will receive future rezoning approval to a different land use by the Board.

B. Applicability. The following: ~~z~~Zoning ~~a~~Actions, Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments, and Compatibility Design Review petitions, hereafter collectively referred to as "~~e~~Conversion applications," shall be subject to LDC section 5.05.15. A ~~e~~Cconversion application shall be required when an applicant seeks to change a constructed golf course to a non-golf course use. However, where a permitted, accessory, or conditional use is sought for a golf course zoned Golf Course and Recreational Uses (GC), the applicant shall be exempt from this section except for LDC section 5.05.15 ~~H~~D. Golf courses constructed prior to [effective date of Ordinance amendment] as a conditional use in the Rural Agricultural Zoning District and constructed golf courses that do not abut and/or are not adjacent to residentially zoned property are also exempt from this section except for LDC Section 5.05.15.D.

1. Zoning ~~a~~AActions. This section applies to a golf course constructed in any zoning district where the proposed use is not permitted, accessory, or conditional in the zoning district or tract for which a zoning change is sought. Zoning actions seeking a PUD rezone shall be subject to the minimum area requirements for PUDs

1 established in LDC section 4.07.02; however, the proposed PUD shall not be  
2 required to meet the contiguous acres requirement so long as the PUD rezone  
3 does not include lands other than the constructed golf course subject to the  
4 conversion application.

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6 2. Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments. This section applies to a golf course  
7 constructed on lands within a Stewardship Receiving Area where the proposed  
8 use is not permitted, accessory, or conditional in the context zone for which the  
9 change is sought.

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11 3. Compatibility Design Review. This section applies to a golf course constructed in  
12 any zoning district or designated as a Stewardship Receiving Area that utilize a  
13 non-golf course use which is a permitted, accessory or conditional use within the  
14 existing zoning district or designation. Conditional uses shall also require  
15 conditional use approval subject to LDC section 10.08.00.

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17 C. Application process for "Intent to Convert" (ITC) and "eConversion" applications.

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19 1. Intent to Convert application procedures. The applicant shall submit an "~~Intent to~~  
20 ~~Convert~~" ITC application to the County prior to submitting a conversion application.  
21 The following is required of the applicant:

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23 a. Application. The Administrative Code shall establish the procedure and  
24 application submittal requirements, including: ~~a title opinion or title~~  
25 ~~commitment that identifies the current owner of the property and all~~  
26 ~~encumbrances against the property; the Developer's Alternatives~~  
27 ~~Statement, as provided for below; and the public outreach methods to be~~  
28 ~~used to engage stakeholders at the Stakeholder Outreach Meetings, as~~  
29 ~~established below.~~

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31 i. A title report that identifies the current owner of the property and all  
32 encumbrances.

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34 ii. A statement describing the public outreach methods to be used to  
35 engage participants and stakeholders at Stakeholders Outreach Meetings,  
36 as established below.

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38 b. Public Notice. The applicant shall be responsible for meeting the  
39 requirements of LDC section 10.03.06.

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41 ~~2. Developer's Alternatives Statement requirements. The purpose of the Developer's~~  
42 ~~Alternatives Statement (DAS) is to serve as a tool to inform stakeholders and the~~  
43 ~~County about the applicant's development options and intentions. It is intended to~~  
44 ~~encourage communication, cooperation, and consensus building between the~~  
45 ~~applicant, the stakeholders, and the County.~~

46 b.  
47 c. Conceptual Development Plans and Alternatives. The applicant DAS shall  
48 be prepared by the applicant and shall clearly identify the goals and  
49 objectives for the conversion project. ~~The DAS shall address, at a~~  
50 ~~minimum, and~~ the ~~three~~ alternatives noted below. The alternatives are not  
51 intended to be mutually exclusive; the conceptual development plans and



1 described below may incorporate one or more of the other alternatives in  
2 the conversion project.

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4 i. No conversion or partial conversion: The applicant shall examine  
5 opportunities to retain all or part of the golf course. The following  
6 considerations are to be assessed:

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8 a) Whether any of the existing property owners' association(s)  
9 reasonably related to the golf course are able to purchase  
10 all or part of the golf course; and

11  
12 b) Whether any of the existing property owners' association(s)  
13 and/or any new association reasonably related to the golf  
14 course can coordinate joint control for all or part of the golf  
15 course.

16  
17 c) A partial conversion to retain a portion of the golf course  
18 where a nine or twelve hole is part of the project or provide  
19 evidence it is not feasible.

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21 ii. ~~County purchase or~~ Alternative ownership options other than  
22 County purchase. The applicant shall ~~coordinate with the County to~~  
23 determine if there is any interest to donate, purchase, or maintain a  
24 portion or all of the property for a public use, ~~such as a public park,~~  
25 ~~open space, civic use, or other public facilities.~~ The applicant shall  
26 pursue other alternatives and provide a written affidavit of those  
27 alternatives, including the entities contacted, discussions held and  
28 results of the discussions. This section shall not require the County  
29 to purchase any lands, nor shall this require the property owner to  
30 donate or sell any land.

31  
32 iii. Conceptual development plans for partial or full conversion: The  
33 applicant shall prepare ~~one~~ two or more proposed conceptual  
34 development plans, consistent with the development standards  
35 established in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~GC.5~~, depicting the proposed  
36 conversion. The applicant shall share the conceptual development  
37 plans with the stakeholders at the Stakeholder Outreach Meetings  
38 as described below. The conceptual development plans shall  
39 include a narrative describing how the plan implements and is  
40 consistent with the goals and objectives identified ~~in the DAS~~. The  
41 conceptual development plans shall depict the retained and  
42 proposed land uses, including residential, non-residential, and  
43 preserve areas; existing and proposed roadway and pedestrian  
44 systems; existing and proposed trees and landscaping; and the  
45 proposed location for the greenway, including any passive  
46 recreational uses. The narrative shall identify the intensity of the  
47 proposed land uses; how the proposed conversion is compatible  
48 with the existing surrounding land uses and any methods to provide  
49 benefits or mitigate impacts to the stakeholders. Diagrams and  
50 visual exhibits to describe the conceptual development plans and  
51 amenities, including the greenway, shall also be provided.

1            ~~3.d.~~ Stakeholder Outreach Meetings (SOMs) for ~~conversion~~ Intent to Convert  
 2 applications. The SOMs are intended to engage the stakeholders early in  
 3 the conversion project and inform the applicant as to what the stakeholders  
 4 find important in the neighborhood, what the stakeholders consider  
 5 compatible with the neighborhood, and what types of land uses they would  
 6 support to be added to the neighborhood. An assigned County planner  
 7 shall attend the SOM and observe the process. Unless otherwise stated in  
 8 this LDC section C.1.d, the SOM shall be conducted in the same manner  
 9 as the NIM. The following is required of the applicant:

10  
 11            ~~a. The Administrative Code shall establish the procedure and~~  
 12 ~~application submittal requirements.~~

13  
 14            ~~b.i.~~ The applicant shall conduct a minimum of two in-person SOMs at  
 15 least 30 days apart from one another and a minimum of one web-  
 16 based visual survey on the proposed conceptual development  
 17 plan~~(s)~~s. The web-based survey web address shall be incorporated  
 18 in the mailings notifying the stakeholders of the in-person SOMs.

19  
 20            ~~eii.~~ At the SOMs, a third party trained facilitator may moderate the  
 21 SOMs to stay on task, assure attendees have an opportunity to  
 22 participate, and protect members. The applicant shall provide  
 23 information to the stakeholders about the purpose of the meeting,  
 24 including a presentation on the goals and objectives of the  
 25 conversion project, the conceptual development plans, the  
 26 greenway concept, and the measures taken to ensure compatibility  
 27 with the existing surrounding neighborhood. The applicant shall  
 28 facilitate discussion on these topics with the stakeholders using one  
 29 or more public outreach method(s) identified in the Administrative  
 30 Code. The applicant shall identify primary issues, solicit input from  
 31 the participants, and ensure comments are included in the SOM  
 32 report.

33  
 34            ~~de.~~ SOM report for conversion applications. After completing the SOMs the  
 35 applicant shall prepare a SOM report. The report shall include a list of  
 36 attendees, a description of the public outreach methods used, photos from  
 37 the meetings demonstrating the outreach process, results from outreach  
 38 methods, and copies of the materials used during the SOMs. The applicant  
 39 shall also include a point-counterpoint list, identifying input from the  
 40 stakeholders and how and why it was or was not incorporated in the  
 41 conversion application. The report shall be organized such that the issues  
 42 and ideas provided by the stakeholders are clearly labeled by the applicant  
 43 in the list and the ~~e~~C conversion application.

44  
 45            ~~f.~~ Stormwater management requirements. The applicant shall demonstrate  
 46 that the stormwater management for the surrounding uses will be  
 47 maintained at an equivalent or improved level of service. This shall be  
 48 demonstrated by a preliminary conceptual pre versus post development  
 49 stormwater runoff analysis including any stormwater runoff from outside the  
 50 golf course that passes on, over, or through areas of the golf course. The

1 final pre versus post development runoff analysis shall be provided with the  
2 Conversion application.

3  
4 g. Participation and/or completion of the ITC application process shall not  
5 imply that a golf course conversion has received or will receive future  
6 rezoning approval to a different land use by the Board.

7  
8 42. Conversion application procedures. An applicant shall not submit a conversion  
9 application (e.g. rezone, PUDA, SRAA, Compatibility Design Review) until the  
10 Intent to Convert application, is- including the SOMs and SOM report are deemed  
11 completed by County staff ~~and the SOMs are completed~~. Thereafter, the applicant  
12 may proceed by submitting a eConversion application with the County as follows:

13  
14 a. Zoning Actions and Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments. For  
15 projects subject to LDC section 5.05.15 B.1., the applicant shall file a PUDA  
16 or rezone application, including the SOM report. For projects subject to  
17 5.05.15 B.2., the applicant shall file a Stewardship Receiving Area  
18 Amendment application, including the SOM report. Deviations to LDC  
19 section 5.05.15, ~~shall be prohibited; further, deviations to~~ minimum design  
20 standards, or other sections of the LDC shall be shared with the  
21 stakeholders at a SOM or NIM prior to the Planning Commission  
22 recommendation and Board approval. Any deviations requested shall  
23 require the owner of real property to demonstrate the need for deviation  
24 and agree to provide an enhancement to the property and/or make  
25 improvements to existing external infrastructure such as stormwater,  
26 roadways or traffic calming in exchange for the deviation. The grant of any  
27 deviation, singularly or in combination with other deviations, shall not  
28 adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare of adjacent  
29 residential use or land zoned residential.

30  
31 ~~b. Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments. For projects subject to 5.05.15~~  
32 ~~B.2., the applicant shall file a Stewardship Receiving Area Amendment~~  
33 ~~application, including the SOM report. Deviations to LDC section 5.05.15~~  
34 ~~shall be prohibited; further, deviations to other sections of the LDC shall be~~  
35 ~~shared with the stakeholders at a SOM or NIM.~~

36  
37 eb. Compatibility Design Review. For projects subject to LDC section 5.05.15  
38 B.3., the applicant shall file a Compatibility Design Review application,  
39 including the SOM report.

40  
41 ~~D~~ c. Criteria and staff report for eConversion applications. In addition to the  
42 requirements established in LDC sections 10.02.08, 10.02.13 B., or  
43 4.08.07, as applicable, the staff report shall evaluate the following:

44  
45 4 i. Whether the applicant has met the requirements established in this  
46 section and development standards in the LDC. In particular, that  
47 the proposed design and use(s) of the greenway, as applicable,  
48 meet the purpose standards as described in LDC section 5.05.15  
49 G-2C.5.b. and minimum useable open space requirements  
50 pursuant to LDC section 4.07.02 G.

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- 2ii. Whether the SOM report and point-counterpoint list described above reflect the discussions that took place at the SOMs.
  - 3iii. Whether the applicant incorporated reasonable input provided by the stakeholders to address impacts of the golf course conversion on stakeholders' real property.
  - 4iv. Whether the applicant provided an explanation as to why input from the stakeholders was not incorporated into the conceptual development plan.
  - v. Whether significant environmental impacts would be required to be mitigated.
  - vi. Whether the application provides for the maintenance of open space and the Greenway.
  - vii. Whether the proposed project is adequately setback from existing residential development, or buffered by the Greenway and compatible with existing adjacent residential development.
  - d. The resolution of real property encumbrances does influence the amount of area eligible for redevelopment. A conversion application may not be deemed complete until real property encumbrances, including all leases, private use restrictions, covenant and open space easements that may impact and/or are within the chain of title to any portion of the golf course property have been resolved between and among the parties.
  - E — 3. Supplemental review and approval considerations for ~~z~~zoning ~~a~~Actions and Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments. The report and recommendations of the Planning Commission and Environmental Advisory Council, if applicable, to the Board shall show the Planning Commission has studied and considered the staff report for conversion applications, reasonable input from the stakeholders, the criteria established in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~D~~C.2.c, as well as the criteria established in LDC sections 10.02.08 F, 10.02.13 B, or 4.08.07, as applicable. In particular, the Planning Commission shall give attention to the design of the greenway and how it mitigates impacts to real property. Further attention shall be given to who can use the greenway. The Board shall consider the criteria in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~D~~C.2.c, as well as the criteria established in LDC sections 10.02.08 F, 10.02.13 B, or 4.08.07, as applicable, and Planning Commission report and recommendation. The applicant is encouraged to consider cluster residential development and affordable housing within the master development plan.
  - F. — 4. Compatibility Design Review. For projects subject to 5.05.15 B.3., this section is intended to address the impact of golf course conversion on real property by requiring the conceptual development plan to be reviewed for compatibility with the existing surrounding uses. The following is required:
    - 4a. Application. The Administrative Code shall establish the submittal requirements for the compatibility design review application.

- 1
- 2 ~~2~~b. Public Notice. The applicant shall be responsible for meeting the
- 3 requirements of LDC section 10.03.06.
- 4
- 5 ~~3~~c. Compatibility Design Review. The Planning Commission shall review the
- 6 staff report as described in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~D.C.2.c~~, the Compatibility
- 7 Design Review application, and make a recommendation to the Board
- 8 based on the following criteria:
- 9
- 10 ~~a~~i. Whether the applicant has met the applicable requirements
- 11 established in this section and reasonably addressed the concepts
- 12 identified in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~D.2.-D.4~~ C.2 c.ii-iv.
- 13
- 14 ~~b~~ii. Whether the conceptual design is compatible with the existing
- 15 surrounding land uses.
- 16
- 17 ~~e~~iii. Whether a view of open space is provided that mitigates impacts to
- 18 real property for the property owners that surround the golf course.
- 19
- 20 ~~d~~iv. Whether open space is retained and available for passive
- 21 recreation.
- 22
- 23 ~~4~~.d. The Board shall consider the criteria in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~F.3~~ C.4.c.,
- 24 above, the staff report and the Planning Commission report and approve,
- 25 approve with conditions, or deny the application. Upon approval of the
- 26 application, the applicant shall obtain approval of any additional required
- 27 development order, such as a SDP, construction plans, or conditional use.
- 28
- 29 ~~G~~ ~~5~~. Development standards. The following are additional minimum design standards
- 30 for zoning actions and Stewardship Receiving Area Amendments. The
- 31 Compatibility Design Review process shall only be subject to LDC section 5.05.15
- 32 ~~G-6~~ C.5.d.
- 33
- 34 ~~4~~a. Previously approved open space. Golf course acreages utilized to meet the
- 35 minimum open space requirements for a previously approved project shall
- 36 be retained as open space and shall not be included in open space
- 37 calculations for any subsequent conversion projects.
- 38
- 39 ~~2~~b. Greenway. The purpose of the greenway is to retain an open space for
- 40 stakeholders, support passive recreational uses, and support existing
- 41 wildlife habitat. For the purposes of this section the greenway shall be
- 42 identified as a continuous strip of land set aside for passive recreational
- 43 uses, such as: open space, nature trails, parks, playgrounds, golf courses,
- 44 beach frontage, disc golf courses, exercise equipment, and multi-use
- 45 paths. The Board may approve other passive recreational uses that were
- 46 vetted at the Stakeholder Outreach Meetings. The greenway shall not
- 47 include required yards (setbacks) of any individual lots.
- 48
- 49 ~~-a~~i. The greenway shall be contiguous to the existing residential
- 50 properties surrounding the golf course and generally located along

1 the perimeter of the proposed development. The Board may  
2 approve an alternative design that was vetted at the Stakeholder  
3 Outreach Meetings, as provided for in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~C.3~~  
4 C.1.d.

5  
6 bii. A minimum of 35 percent of the gross area of the conversion project  
7 shall be dedicated to the greenway. The greenway shall have an  
8 ~~minimum~~ average width of ~~400~~ 75 feet and no less than ~~75~~ 50 feet  
9 at any one location. For golf courses zoned Golf Course and  
10 Recreational Uses "GC", a minimum 50 feet buffer zone and  
11 building set back width from abutting residential shall be maintained  
12 for consistency with the accessory building and structures for golf  
13 course lots setback set forth in LDC section 4.02.03 D.

14  
15 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may reduce the average  
16 width of the greenway as a deviation subject to paragraph C.4. or  
17 C.4.b and aggregate the greenway into one or more larger parcels,  
18 provided there is 35 percent of the gross area being dedicated to  
19 the greenway.

20  
21 iii. The greenway land shall be owned and maintained by a  
22 homeowner's association, land trust, government entity, a  
23 conservation organization or other entity recognized by the Board  
24 of County Commissioners.

25  
26 ~~e~~ iv. Maintenance of the greenway shall be identified through the zoning  
27 ~~or~~ and /or Stewardship Receiving Area Amendment process.

28  
29 ~~d~~ v. The greenway may be counted towards the open space  
30 requirement for the conversion project as established in LDC  
31 section 4.02.00 except as noted in ~~G.4~~ paragraph C.5.a. above.

32  
33 ~~e~~ vi. Existing trees and understory (shrubs and groundcover) shall be  
34 preserved and maintained within the greenway, except where  
35 minimal improvements are needed that provide a passive  
36 recreational use. At a minimum, canopy trees shall be provided at  
37 a ratio of 1:2,000 square feet within the greenway. Existing trees  
38 may count toward the ratio; however, trees within preserves shall  
39 be excluded from the ratio.

40  
41 ~~f~~ vii. A wall or fence is not required between the greenway and the  
42 proposed development; however, should a wall or fence be  
43 constructed, the fence shall provide habitat connectivity to facilitate  
44 movement of wildlife in and around the greenway.

45  
46 ~~g~~ viii. A portion of the greenway may provide stormwater management;  
47 however, the greenway shall not create more than 30 percent  
48 additional lake area than exists pre-conversion in the greenway.  
49 Any newly developed lake shall be a minimum of 100 feet wide.

50

- 1 ~~h~~ ix. The applicant shall record a restrictive covenant at the time of
- 2 subdivision plat or SDP approval, in the County's official records
- 3 describing the use and maintenance of the greenway as described
- 4 in the zoning action or SRA Amendment. With each phase of
- 5 development, there will be at least two tracts, one to identify the
- 6 greenway tract (restrictive covenant and maintenance use) and the
- 7 other as the project development tract.
- 8
- 9 ~~3~~c. Preserve requirements. The following preserve standards supplement
- 10 those established in LDC section 3.05.07.
- 11
- 12 ~~a~~i. Where small, isolated areas (of less than ½ acre in size) of native
- 13 vegetation (including planted areas) exist on site they may be
- 14 consolidated into a created preserve that may be greater than ½
- 15 acre in size in the aggregate to meet the preserve requirement.
- 16
- 17 ~~b~~ii. Existing County approved preserve areas shall be considered as
- 18 follows:
- 19
- 20 ~~i~~a) Golf courses within a conventional zoning district. All County
- 21 approved preserve areas shall be retained and may be utilized to
- 22 meet the preserve requirements for the conversion project.
- 23
- 24 ~~ii~~b) Golf courses within a PUD. All County approved preserve
- 25 areas shall be retained. Preserve areas in excess of the PUD
- 26 required preserve acreage may be used to meet the preserve
- 27 requirement for the conversion project.
- 28
- 29 ~~4~~d. Stormwater management requirements. The applicant shall demonstrate
- 30 that the stormwater management for the surrounding uses will be
- 31 maintained at an equivalent or improved level of service. This shall be
- 32 demonstrated by a pre versus post development stormwater runoff analysis
- 33 including any stormwater runoff from outside the golf course that passes
- 34 on, over, or through areas of the golf course.
- 35
- 36 ~~5~~e. Floodplain compensation. In accordance with LDC section 3.07.02
- 37 floodplain compensation shall be provided at the time of the Conversion
- 38 application.
- 39
- 40 ~~6~~f. Soil and/or groundwater sampling may not be deferred by the applicant to
- 41 Early Work Authorization (EWA), SDP, or PPL. ~~submittal, whichever is the~~
- 42 ~~first to occur, if t~~ The sampling shall be not been completed by the time the
- 43 conversion application is submitted. ~~the rezoning, SRA amendment, or~~
- 44 ~~compatibility design review public hearings.~~ See LDC Section 3.08.00
- 45 A.4.d.
- 46
- 47 g. Building setbacks. All single and two story buildings shall be setback a
- 48 minimum average of 50 foot from the property line of existing lands zoned
- 49 residential or with residential uses, however no less than 35 feet at any one
- 50 location and an increased setback to buildings above two stories, may be

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Text underlined is new text to be added.

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required at the time of the Planning Commission and/or Board public hearing.

~~7~~h. All other development standards. The conversion of golf courses shall be consistent with the development standards in the LDC, as amended. Where conflicts arise between the provisions in this section and other provisions in the LDC, the more restrictive provision shall apply.

~~H~~D. Design standards for lands converted from a golf course or for a permitted use within the GC zoning district shall be subject to the following design standards.

1. Lighting. All lighting shall be designed to reduce excessive glare, light trespass and sky glow. At a minimum, lighting shall be directed away from neighboring properties and all light fixtures shall be full cutoff with flat lenses. Lighting for the conversion project shall be vetted with stakeholders during the SOMs and the public hearings, as applicable.

2. Setbacks. All non-golf course uses, except for the greenway, shall provide a minimum average 50-foot setback from lands zoned residential or with residential uses, however the setback shall be no less than 35 feet at any one location.

# # # # # # # # # # # # # #



# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

## Collier County Land Development Code | *Administrative Procedures Manual* Chapter 4 | *Administrative Procedures*

### N. Intent to Convert Application for Golf Course Conversions

**Reference** LDC sections [5.05.15](#), and LDC Public Notice section [10.03.06 W](#).

↔ See Chapter 8.F for Stakeholder Outreach Meetings for Golf Course Conversions.

**Applicability** This process applies to applicants seeking to convert a constructed golf course to a non-golf course use. Approval of this application is required prior to submitting a conversion application (rezone, PUD, SRAA or Compatibility Design Review petition). This application is not

**Pre-Application** A pre-application meeting is required.

**Initiation** The **applicant** files an “*Intent to Convert*” application with the ~~Planning &~~ Zoning Division.

↔ See Chapter 1 D. for additional information regarding the procedural steps for initiating an application.

**Application** The application must include the following:

**Contents**

1. **Applicant contact information.**
2. **Addressing checklist.**
3. Name of project.
4. The name and mailing address of all registered property owners’ associations that could be affected by the application.
5. Property Ownership Disclosure Form.
6. The date the subject property was acquired or leased (including the term of the lease). If the applicant has an option to buy, indicate the dates of the option, date the option starts and terminates, and anticipated closing date.
7. A title ~~opinion or title commitment~~ [report](#) that identifies the current owner of the property and all encumbrances against the property.
8. Boundary survey (no more than six months old).
9. Property information, including:
  - a. Legal description;
  - b. Property identification number;
  - c. Section, township, and range;
  - d. Address of the subject site and general location;
  - e. Size of property in feet and acres; and
  - f. Zoning district.
10. If the property owner owns additional property contiguous to the subject property, then the following information, regarding the contiguous property, must be included:
  - a. Legal description;

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

- b. Property identification number;
  - c. Section, township and range; and
  - d. Subdivision, unit, lot and block, or metes and bounds description.
11. Zoning information, including adjacent zoning and land use.
12. Existing PUD Ordinance, SRA Development Document, Site Development Plan, or Plat.
13. An exhibit identifying the following:
- a. Any golf course acreage that was utilized to meet the minimum open space requirements for any previously approved project;
  - b. Existing preserve areas;
  - ~~c. Sporadic vegetation less than ¼ acre, including planted areas, that meet criteria established in LDC section 3.05.07 A.4; and~~
  - ~~d. A matrix demonstrating the following as required in LDC section 5.05.15 G.3:~~
    - ~~i. For conventionally zoned districts:~~
      - ~~a) County approved preserve acreage; and~~
      - ~~b) Any sporadic vegetation acreage used to meet the preserve requirement for the conversion project.~~
    - ~~ii. For PUDs:~~
      - ~~a) County approved preserve acreage; and~~
      - ~~b) Any County approved preserve acreage in excess of the PUD required preserve acreage that is used to meet the preserve requirement for the conversion project.~~
14. Preliminary conceptual stormwater management requirements as required by LDC section 5.05.15 ~~G.4C.5.d.~~
15. Affidavit of Authorization.
- ~~15. Floodplain compensation, if required by LDC section 3.07.02.~~
- ~~16. Soil and/or groundwater sampling results, if available, as described in LDC sections 3.08.00 A.4.d and 5.05.15 G.6.~~
- ~~17. List of deviations requested, as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.4.a-b. The specific LDC sections for which the deviations are sought shall be identified. The list of deviations shall be shared with stakeholders at the SOM or NIM.~~
- ~~18~~ **16. Electronic copies of all documents.**

## Application Contents Required for Presentations at SOMs

- In addition to the application contents above, the following must also be submitted with the Intent to Convert application and used during SOM presentations:
1. ~~The Developer's Alternatives Statement as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C,~~ including:
- ~~a. A narrative clearly describing the goals and objectives for the conversion project.~~

## Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

~~b. *No Conversion Alternative:* A narrative describing the timeline of correspondence between the applicant and the property owners' associations relating to the applicant's examination of opportunities to retain all or part of the golf course as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.2.b.i, and copies of such correspondence. It shall be noted in the narrative whether a final decision has been made about this alternative or whether discussions with the property owners' associations are ongoing.~~

~~c. *County Purchase Alternative:* A narrative describing the timeline of correspondence between the applicant and the County to determine if there is interest to retain all or portions of the property for public use as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.2.b.ii, and copies of such correspondence. It shall be noted in the narrative whether a final decision has been made about this alternative or whether discussions with the County are ongoing.~~

~~d. *Conceptual Development Plan Alternative:* A Two conceptual development plans consistent with LDC section 5.05.15 C.2.b.iii, and as described in the following section.~~

2. The conceptual development plans shall include all information described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.2.b.iii, and the following:

- a. An Access Management Exhibit, identifying the location and dimension of existing and proposed access points and legal access to the site.
- b. A dimensional standards table for each type of land use proposed within the conceptual plans.
  - ⊖ i. Dimensional standards shall be based upon the established zoning district, or that which most closely resembles the development strategy, particularly the type, density, and intensity of each proposed land use.
  - ⊖ ii. For PUDs: Any proposed deviations from dimensional standards of the established zoning district, or of the most similar zoning district, shall be clearly identified. Provide a narrative describing the justifications for any proposed deviations that are not prohibited by LDC section 5.05.15 C.4.2.
- c. A plan providing the proposed location and design of the greenway (this ~~may shall~~ be included on ~~each the~~ conceptual development plans):
  - ⊖ i. *Greenway Design:* A plan providing the proposed location and design of the greenway and illustrating the following (including any alternative designs as described in LDC section 5.05.15 ~~G.2.a~~C.5.i):
    - a) The proposed location of passive recreational uses;
    - b) Existing and proposed lakes, including lake area calculations;
    - c) Preserve areas;

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

- **d)** Any structures or trails related to passive recreational uses;
- **e)** Greenway widths demonstrating a minimum average width of ~~100~~ **75** feet and no less than ~~75~~ **50** feet shall be identified every 100 feet;
- **f)** Locations of existing trees and understory (shrubs and groundcover) shall be located on the plan in accordance with **LDC** section **5.05.15 G.2.e C.5.vi.**;
- ~~**g)** A matrix identified on the plan shall demonstrate tree counts used to calculate the ratio described in **LDC** section **5.05.15 G.2.e.**; and~~
- **g)** Location of any proposed wall or fence pursuant to **LDC** section **5.05.15 G.2.f C.5.vii.**

- **d.** A narrative describing how the applicant proposes to offset or minimize impacts of the golf course conversion on stakeholders’ real property and provide for compatibility with existing surrounding land uses. Identify the compatibility measures on the conceptual development plans.

3. A narrative statement describing how the greenway will meet the purpose as described in **LDC** section **5.05.15 G.2 C.5.b.** to retain open space views for stakeholders, support passive recreational uses, and support existing wildlife habitat.
4. A narrative statement describing the public outreach method ~~(s)~~ **proposed to be used** for the **SOMs**, consistent with Administrative Code Chapter 8.F
5. Web-based survey, including the following:
  - **a.** A copy of the web-based survey;
  - **b.** The user-friendly website address where the survey will be available; and
  - **c.** The dates the survey will be available.

**Completeness and Processing of Application** ⇔ *See Chapter 1 D.5 for the acceptance and processing of an application. The application, Notice for Intent to Convert, Web-based survey, and installation of signs prior to mailing notices shall be reviewed by staff. An incomplete application shall not be processed until all requirements of the application are deemed satisfactory before the first SOM as determined by written notice from the County Manager or designee.*

**Notice for the Intent to Convert Application** After the Intent to Convert application has been submitted, notice is required to inform stakeholders of a forthcoming golf course conversion application. However, no mailing is required if the applicant chooses to withdraw the Intent to Convert application.

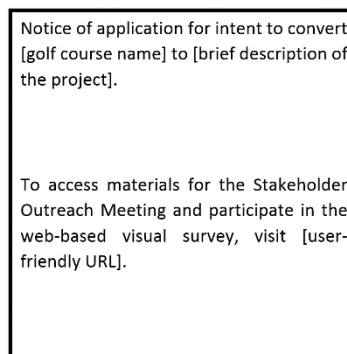
⇔ *See Chapter 8 of the Administrative Code for additional notice information.*

1. **Mailed Notice:** For the purposes of this **mailed notice**, written notice shall be sent to **property owners** located within 1,000 feet from the property line of the golf course. The notice shall be sent after the Intent to Convert application has been reviewed and deemed satisfactory **in a clearance letter** by staff to proceed to the mailed notice and **SOMs**, and at least 20 days prior to the first **SOM**. The mailed notice shall include the following:

- **a.** Explanation of the intention to convert the golf course.

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

- **b.** Indication that there will be at least two advertised **SOMs** and one web-based visual survey to solicit input from stakeholders on the proposed project. The date, time, and location of the **SOMs** does not need to be included in this mailing.
  - **c.** 2 in. x 3 in. map of the project location.
  - **d.** Applicant contact information.
2. **Sign:** (see format below) Posted after the Intent to Convert application has been reviewed and deemed satisfactory by staff to proceed to the mailed notice and **SOMs**, and at least 20 days before the first **SOM**. The sign(s) shall remain posted until all **SOMs** are complete and removed no earlier than 14 days after the last SOM. For the purposes of this section, signage, measuring ~~16~~ 32 square feet, shall clearly indicate an applicant is petitioning the county to convert the golf course to a non-golf use (e.g. residential). A user-friendly website address shall be provided on the signs directing interested parties to visit Collier County’s website to access materials for the **SOMs** and the web-based visual survey. The sign(s) shall remain posted for 7 days after the last required **SOM**. The location of the signage shall be consistent with *Chapter 8 E of the Administrative Code* and approved by the assigned planner.



**Location** The applicant shall arrange the location of the meeting. To promote increase participation, all **SOMs** shall be conducted at a physical location to allow for in-person attendance and virtually, utilizing videoconferencing technology. The in-person location must be reasonably convenient to the property owners who received the required notice. The facilities must be of sufficient size to accommodate the expected attendance.

**Conduct of SOM Meeting and Decorum** A Collier County staff planner or designee, shall attend the **SOM** and record commitments made by the applicant during the **SOMs** while remaining neutral and providing clarification regarding the next steps the applicant must follow for the Intent to Convert and Conversion applications. The expectation that all **SOM** participants will conduct themselves in such a manner that their presence will not interfere with the orderly progress of the meeting. If the applicant or staff planner determines the **SOM** cannot be completed due to the disorderly conduct of the participants, the applicant shall have the right to adjourn the **SOM** and be required to conduct another **SOM**, in person or via videoconferencing technology, or both, at the applicant’s discretion. The applicant shall strive to establish, in a collaborative manner, an open discussion among all stakeholders and pursuant to the conduct of meeting and decorum set forth in Chapter 8 B for **NIMs**.

**Public Hearing** No public hearing is required for the Intent to Convert application. Public hearings will be required for subsequent conversion applications.

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

**Decision Maker** The County Manager or designee.

**Review Process** The Zoning Division will review the Intent to Convert application and identify whether additional materials are needed.

**Updated** 2021-143

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

## Collier County Land Development Code | *Administrative Procedures Manual* Chapter 8 | Public Notice

### F. Stakeholder Outreach Meeting for Golf Course Conversions (SOM)

**Reference** LDC sections [5.05.15](#) and LDC Public Notice section [10.03.06](#).

⇔ See Chapter 4.N for Intent to Convert Applications for the Application Contents Required for Presentations at SOMs.

**Purpose** Stakeholder Outreach Meetings (**SOMs**) are intended to engage stakeholders early in the design of a golf course conversion project and to encourage collaboration and consensus between the applicant and the stakeholders on the proposed conversion. [The applicant shall work with the participants on two or more conceptual development plans during and at the outset of the process and each meeting.](#)

**Applicability** This process applies to [an “Intent to Convert” application for](#) applicants seeking to convert a constructed golf course to a non-golf course use. A minimum of two in-person meetings and one web-based visual survey are required. This section shall be used in connection with LDC section [5.05.15](#).

**Initiation** The **SOMs** may be held after the “Intent to Convert” application has been received by the County and deemed sufficient by staff to proceed. It is encouraged that **SOMs** take place in a timely manner so as to support stakeholder involvement.

**SOM Notice Requirements** Each **SOM** shall be noticed as follows:

**1. Newspaper Advertisements:** The legal advertisement shall be published at least 15 days before the **SOM** in a newspaper of general circulation. The advertisement shall include at a minimum:

- a. Date, time, and location of the SOM;
- b. Petition name, number and applicant contact info;
- c. Notice of the intention to convert the golf course to a non-golf course use;
- d. Brief description of the proposed uses; and
- e. 2 in. x 3 in. map of the project location.

**2. Mailed Notice:** For the purposes of this **mailed notice** requirement, written notice shall be sent to property owners located within 1,000 feet from the property line of the golf course at least 15 days before the first **SOM**. The mailed notice shall include the following:

- a. Date, time, and location of each **SOM** included in the **mailed notice**;
- b. Petition name, number and applicant contact info;
- c. Notice of the intention to convert the golf course to another use;
- d. A brief description of the proposed uses;
- e. A statement describing that the applicant is seeking input through a stakeholder outreach process;

## Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

- f. The user-friendly web address where the meeting materials, ~~such as the Developers Alternatives Statement,~~ can be accessed;
- g. A brief description of the visual survey and the user-friendly web address where the survey can be accessed; and
- h. The dates that the web-based visual survey will be available online.

**Location** The **applicant** must arrange the location of the meeting. The location must be reasonably convenient to the **property owners** who receive the required notice. The facilities must be of sufficient size to accommodate expected attendance.

**Timeframe** **SOMs** must be held between November 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> and no earlier than 30 days between each SOM.

**Conduct of SOMs** A minimum of two **SOMs** shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

- a. An assigned County **planner** shall attend the **SOMs** and observe the process, and provide clarification of the process as needed. The **planner** shall note any commitment made by the applicant during the meetings. A third party trained facilitator may moderate the SOMs, but is otherwise optional.
- b. Meeting Conduct: The applicant shall conduct the meetings as follows:
  - i. Use at least one public outreach method during the in-person meetings as described below; and
  - ii. The applicant shall ~~facilitate~~ initiate dialogue and encourage input on the conceptual development plan from the stakeholders regarding the types of development the stakeholders consider compatible with the neighborhood, and the types of land uses they would support to be added to the neighborhood. The applicant shall identify the primary issues, encourage input from the participants, and ensure comments are disclosed in the applicant's SOM report.
  - iii. The applicant shall work with the participants on two or more conceptual development plans at the outset of the first SOM meeting. The second SOM shall build off of the initial SOM as new information becomes available from conversations and interviews with participants.
  - iv. The expectation is that all participants will conduct themselves in such a manner that their presence will not interfere with the orderly progress of the meeting and pursuant to the conduct of meeting and decorum set forth in Chapter 8 B for NIMs.
- c. Presentation: The **applicant** must provide the following at the **SOM** for review and comment:
  - i. The current **LDC** zoning district uses and development regulations;
  - ii. Information about the purpose of the meeting, including the goals and objectives of the conversion project;
  - iii. ~~A copy of the Developer's Alternatives Statement shall be made available at the SOM, as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.2;~~



# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

iv.iii. Visuals and diagrams depicting the conceptual development plan~~(s)~~ and the greenway; and

v.iv. The list of deviations requested, as described in LDC section 5.05.15 C.2.a.

d. Public Outreach Methods: The **applicant** shall use one or more of the following at the Stakeholder Outreach Meetings to engage stakeholders:

i. Charrette. This public outreach method is a collaborative design and planning workshop that occurs over multiple days. Through a charrette, the **applicant** designs the conceptual development plan and greenway with stakeholders' input. During a charrette, stakeholders are given the opportunity to identify values, needs, and desired outcomes regarding the project. Through a series of engagement activities the conceptual development plan and greenway are designed and refined. Throughout the sessions, stakeholders have an opportunity to analyze the project, address and resolve issues, and comment on multiple iterations of the project.

ii. Participatory Mapping. This public outreach method produces maps using stakeholder knowledge and input. To start, the applicant *hosts a workshop* and shares information about the project through exhibits such as poster boards, written or electronic materials, etc. Participants are then given sticky dots, markers, or other tactile/visualization tools in conjunction with maps of the conceptual development plan and greenway to identify options to address compatibility, adverse impacts, or types of desirable usable open space for the project. For example: stakeholders are asked to place red dots on the map where there is a perceived pedestrian hazard and place a green dot where they support additional tree plantings in the greenway. .

iii. Group Polling. This public outreach method polls participants at the meeting and provides instant results. The poll can include a wide range of topics about the project, such as density, greenway uses, vehicle/pedestrian transportation networks, etc. The **applicant** provides sticky dots or uses electronic devices to conduct the polling.

iv. Visioning Exercise. This public outreach method invites stakeholders to describe their core values and vision for their community. In a workshop setting, the **applicant** presents a wide variety of reports, maps, photos, and other information about the project. The **applicant** then poses questions to the participants, such as, but not limited to the following:

- 1) "What do people want to preserve in the community?"
- 2) "What do people want to create in the community?"
- 3) "What do people want to change in the community?"

The applicant collects the responses and works with the participants to create a vision statement for the project that incorporates the goals, concerns, and values of the community. .

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

**Web-Based Visual Survey Requirements** The web-based visual survey is intended to increase engagement with stakeholders [in an orderly concise document with diagrams](#). The survey should engage the stakeholders in the design of the project and assist in determining what stakeholders find important to the neighborhood, what is considered compatible with the neighborhood, and what types of land uses they support adding to the neighborhood.

- a. The survey shall provide [diagrams and](#) visual representations of the proposed development, in particular the types of land uses proposed, streetscapes, public spaces, design characteristics, and ~~depictions~~ [tentative sketches](#) of the greenway design;
- b. The survey questions shall be worded so as to elicit responses to the stakeholders’ preferences or support for the visual representations.
- c. The survey shall allow for additional comment(s) to be made by the stakeholders.
- d. [Hard copies of the survey shall be available to participants at the SOMs.](#)

[Staff shall review the survey, including photos, diagrams, and determine whether it is ready to activate no later than 14 days before the first SOM.](#)

**SOM Report** After the **SOMs** and the web-based survey are [deemed](#) complete [by staff](#), the **applicant** will submit a report of the **SOM** to the County, including the following information:

- a. A list of attendees, a description of the public outreach methods used, photos from the meetings demonstrating the outreach process, results from outreach methods described above;
- b. Copies of the materials used during the meeting, including any materials created at the meeting, such as any participatory mapping or related documents;
- c. A verbatim transcript of the meetings and an audio (mp3 or WAV format) or video recording in a format accessible or viewable by the County;
- d. A point-counterpoint list, identifying the input from the stakeholders and how and why it was or was not incorporated into the [Conversion](#) application. Input from stakeholders may be categorized by topic and the applicant may provide a single response to each topic in narrative format; and
- e. The report shall be organized such that the issues and ideas provided by the stakeholders that are incorporated in the application are clearly labeled in the point-counterpoint list and in the [eConversion](#) application.

**Meeting Follow-up** After each **SOM** is completed and prior to the submittal of a [eConversion](#) application, the applicant will submit to the assigned **planner** a written summary of the **SOM** and any commitment that has been made. Any commitment made during the meeting will:

- a. Become part of the record of the proceedings;
- b. Be included in the staff report for any subsequent conversion application; and
- c. Be considered for inclusion into the conditions of approval of any subsequent development order.

Updated

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

## Collier County Land Development Code | *Administrative Procedures Manual* Chapter 3 | *Quasi-Judicial Procedures with a Public Hearing*

### K. Compatibility Design Review

**Reference** LDC sections [5.05.15](#), and LDC Public Notice section [10.03.06 Y](#).

↔ See Chapter 4.N of the Administrative Code for Intent to Convert Applications and Chapter 8.F for Stakeholder Outreach Meetings for Golf Course Conversions.

**Purpose** The Compatibility Design Review process is intended to address the impacts of golf course conversions on real property by reviewing the conceptual development plan for compatibility with existing surrounding uses.

**Applicability** This process applies to a golf course constructed in any zoning district or designated as a Stewardship Receiving Area that utilize a non-golf course use which is a permitted, accessory, or conditional use within the existing zoning district or designation.

This application is not required for golf courses zoned Golf Course and Recreational Uses (GC) seeking another use as provided for in LDC section [2.03.09 A](#).

Conditional uses shall also require conditional use approval subject to LDC section [10.08.00](#). The conditional use approval should be a companion item to the compatibility design review approval.

**Pre-Application Meeting** A pre-application meeting is required.

**Initiation** The **applicant** files an “*Application for Compatibility Design Review*” with the Zoning Division after the “*Intent to Convert*” application is deemed complete by County staff and the Stakeholder Outreach Meetings (**SOMs**) are completed. ↔ See Chapter 4 of the Administrative Code for information regarding the “*Intent to Convert*” application and Chapter 8 of the Administrative Code for requirements for SOMs and additional notice information.

↔ See Chapter 1 D. for additional information regarding the procedural steps for initiating an application.

**Application Contents** The application must include the following:

1. **Applicant contact information.**
2. **Addressing checklist.**
3. Name of project.
4. The proposed conceptual development plan.
5. The name and mailing address of all registered property owners’ associations that could be affected by the application.
6. Property Ownership Disclosure Form.
7. The date the subject property was acquired or leased (including the term of the lease). If the applicant has an option to buy, indicate the dates of the option: date the option starts and terminates, and anticipated closing date.
8. Property information, including:

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

- a. Legal description;
  - b. Property identification number;
  - c. Section, township, and range;
  - d. Address of the subject site and general location;
  - e. Size of property in feet and acres;
  - f. Zoning district;
  - g. Plat book and page number; and
  - h. Subdivision, unit, lot and block, and metes and bounds description.
9. If the property owner owns additional property contiguous to the subject property, then the following information, regarding the contiguous property, must be included:
- a. Legal description;
  - b. Property identification number;
  - c. Section, township and range; and
  - d. Subdivision, unit, lot and block, or metes and bounds description.
10. Zoning information, including adjacent zoning and land use.
11. Soil and/or groundwater sampling results, if available, as described in **LDC** section **3.08.00 A.4.d** and **5.05.15 ~~G.6~~C.5.d**;
12. The approved Intent to Convert application, as described in **LDC** section **5.05.15 C.1**; and
13. The **SOM** Report, as described in **LDC** section **5.05.15 C.3-1.e**.
14. A narrative describing how the applicant has complied with the criteria in **LDC** sections **5.05.15 ~~F.3~~C.4.c**, including:
- a. A list of examples depicting how each criterion is met;
  - b. A brief narrative describing how the examples meet the criterion; and
  - c. Illustration of the examples on the conceptual development plan that are described above.
15. Affidavit of Authorization.

## Completeness and Processing of Application

↔ See Chapter 1 D.5 for the acceptance and processing of an application.

**Notice** Notification requirements are as follows.

↔ See Chapter 8 of the Administrative Code for additional notice information.

1. **Newspaper Advertisements:** The legal advertisement shall be published at least 15 days prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation. The advertisement shall include at a minimum:
  - a. Date, time, and location of the hearing;
  - b. Description of the proposed land uses; and

# Exhibit A – Administrative Code Changes

c. 2 in. x 3 in. map of the project location.

2. **Mailed Notice:** For the purposes of this **mailed notice** requirement, written notice shall be sent to property owners located within 1,000 feet from the property line of the golf course at least 15 days prior to the advertised public hearings.
3. **Sign:** Posted at least 15 days before the advertised public hearing date. ⇔ *See Chapter 8 E. of the Administrative Code for sign template.*

- Public Hearing**
1. The Planning Commission shall hold at least 1 advertised public hearing.
  2. The BCC shall hold at least 1 advertised public hearing.

**Decision Maker** The BCC, following a recommendation by the Planning Commission.

**Review Process** Staff will prepare a staff report consistent with **LDC** section **5.05.15** ~~¶ C.4~~ and schedule a hearing date before the Planning Commission to present the petition. Following the Planning Commission’s review, Staff will prepare an Executive Summary and will schedule a hearing date before the BCC to present the petition.

**Updated** 2021-143

## Exhibit B –Process and Staff Improvements

- 1) Clarify, the conversion of a golf course to non-golf course uses is a two step process. *First*, an intent to convert (ITC) application process is filed that at the end of the process has fostered a qualitative public outreach program resulting in a web-base survey, two public meetings, point-counterpoint discussions, and a deliverable stakeholder outreach meeting report. It will exempt from the ITC process, golf courses that do not abut residentially zoned property ~~or property developed with single family or multi-family structures~~, as suggested by the County Attorney’s Office on April 11, 2023. The SOM report is a nonbinding report resulting from the dialogue between the applicant and stakeholders, so all parties are involved early on before the start of a project’s design [and the filing of a Conversion application](#). *Secondly*, after the ITC application process is completed, an applicant can make the decision to file a land use petition to rezone or not. In the event the applicant proceeds to file the land use petition, the petitioner is able to modify or retain the ITC application conceptual design plan. The ITC process allows the developer/applicant to fully engage stakeholders prior to filing a rezoning application and after the ITC process focus their resources on conditions acceptable or objectable to the area landowners. As previously stated, the amendment, if approved, shall exempt golf courses from the ITC process that do not abut or residential zoned properties with an abutting residential subdivision design.
- 2) Provide greater flexibility and reduce the minimum Greenway average width from 100’ to 75’ and no less than 50’ at any one location provided that 35% of gross area of the conversion project is dedicated to the Greenway on a “*case by case basis*” in an interconnecting and alternative design considered by the Planning Commission. The Greenway would be contiguous to an existing residential development or located into an aggregate parcel or parcels that in total could equal 35% of the gross Conversion project area. The greenway average width reduction would be a recommendation made by the Planning Commission, subject to the Board’s rezoning approval, and implemented at the time of site development plan approval, rather than solely modified and designed during the SOM. In general, the reduction can occur based upon site specific characteristics and enhancements, such as, an enhancement to regional drainage improvements to benefit surrounding properties, alleviate constrains to usable open spaces due to limited access or a proposed water management system, improved landscaping and plantings for additional screening, a wider multi-use recreational pathway, relief from excessive flooding by upgrading stormwater conveyance facilities onsite or offsite which are not required of the applicant. The reduction shall serve to benefit the public health, safety, and welfare.
- 3) The amendment’s proposed buffer width reduction is predicated upon staff’s findings of other similiar community standards adopted, after 2017, by Bonita Springs and Estero, FL, Fulton County, GA, Lexington County, SC, Hendersonville, NC, and Palm Srings, CA. *See Exhibit C-Other Community Standards*. The 35% Greenway area standard is intertwined with the following :
  - Within residential developments and PUD districts composed of residential dwelling units and accessory uses, at least **60%** of the gross area shall be devoted to usable open space. This is pursuant to LDC section 4.02.01 B -Open Space Requirements and LDC section 4.07.02 Design Requirements for PUDs.
  - Policy 6.1.1 of the Conservation and Coastal Management of the GMP, requires a minimum preservation and vegetation retention standard of **35%** in the Coastal and Non-Coastal High Hazard Areas for Golf Courses.

## Exhibit C – Other Communities Standards

- For Rural Fringe Mixed Use Districts that utilize TDR credits, the Receiving Lands projects which are greater than 40 acres in size require a minimum of **70%** useable open space.
  - Within the RLSA Overlay, Policy 4.10 of the FLUE requires a minimum **35%** of the gross acreage of an individual SRA Town or Village be devoted to open space.
- 4) Add a minimum time period between the first and second SOM. The amendment proposes a minimum of 45 days between SOMs to allow participants to continually update new information as it becomes available from the conversations, interviews and initial SOM. After the last SOM and the filing of a complete SOM report, the applicant may elect to submit a petition to rezone or not proceed with a conversion application.
  - 5) Allow for a preliminary conceptual stormwater runoff analysis to occur during the ITC process and the final pre versus post development stormwater runoff analysis and floodplain compensation review to be submitted at the time the conversion application for rezoning is filed. This is in acknowledgement of golf courses designed in conjunction with residential areas, often provide stormwater management for the entire project. During the redevelopment process the developer is required to maintain an equivalent (or improved) level of stormwater service demonstrated by a pre versus post development analysis.
  - 6) Support the repurpose of a golf course and increase the utility of the property with multiple purposes, rather than singular uses, to benefit different stakeholders and nearby residents' of the surrounding neighborhood. By providing alternative uses to golf courses and multiple purposes presented during the SOMs, a better predictable development decision can be made.
  - 7) Require consideration to be provided by the applicant for a partial conversion to retain a portion of the golf course as operational (9-hole, 12-hole, or par three course).
  - 8) Alleviate the issue of the developer's alternative statement requirement for a singular county purchase and broaden the purchase discussion to include other alternative options that are validated through the submittal of a letter or letters of affidavit attesting to the alternative options considered by the applicant and stakeholders.
  - 9) Require full disclosure and title report from the property owner that shall identify all public or private encumbrances, leases, use restrictions, covenants and easements that impact and/or are within the chain of title to any portion of the golf course property. The property owner shall further identify whether or not they are in default of any agreements. All such agreements, including maintenance obligations, shall be attached to the ITC application.
  - 10) To keep the SOMs productive, create a safe environment that encourages people to participate, to neutralize a contentious political environment, and an atmosphere of trust for participants, a public involvement specialist /trained third party facilitator is encouraged, however optional. The facilitator would explain how the SOMs meetings will be run, provide meetings sign in sheets and handouts describing the project mission, goal and process, report on "one on one" conversations and identify the issues important to the neighborhood. The time period between conducting SOMs shall be held no sooner than 45 days. This will serve to avoid word of mouth conversations during the meeting, provide

# Exhibit C – Other Communities Standards

a better outcome for the participants and establish a shared understanding of the project purpose and process, as well as the community needs between meetings.

- 11) Classify the stakeholders and attendees as the following: decision makers, those directly affected by the outcome (abutting versus non-abutting residents), those that are temporary/seasonal residents, and those to promote the project and those or with the authority to oppose or support the project.
- 12) Clarify for stakeholder participants, the consequential and consecutive stages to the entitlement process: comprehensive planning, zoning, platting, site improvement and construction plans.
- 13) Promote the County’s Future Land Use Element (FLUE) of the GMP Policy 5.8 which states: “Permit the use of clustered residential development, Planned Unit Development techniques, mixed-use development, rural villages, new towns, satellite communities, transfer of development rights, agricultural and conservation easements, and other innovative approaches, in order to conserve open space and environmentally sensitive areas. Continue to review and amend the zoning and subdivision regulations as necessary to allow and encourage such innovative land development techniques.” The applicant shall be encouraged to consider cluster development and affordable housing, that can add to the affordable housing supply, within the applicant’s conceptual development plans.
- 14) The FLUE states for Agricultural/Rural Designated lands within a Rural Fringe Mixed Use District the following:

“**A) Receiving Lands:** Receiving Lands are those lands within the Rural Fringe Mixed Use District that have been identified as being most appropriate for development and to which residential development units may be transferred from areas designated as Sending Lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2. Clustering:** Where the transfer of development rights is employed to increase residential density within Receiving Lands, such residential development shall be clustered in accordance with the following provisions:

\* \* \* \* \*

- b) The maximum lot size allowable for a single-family detached dwelling unit is one acre.
- c) The clustered development shall be located on the site so as to provide to the greatest degree practicable: protection for listed species habitat; preservation of the highest quality native vegetation; connectivity to adjacent natural reservations or preservation areas on adjacent developments; and, creation, maintenance or enhancement of wildlife corridors.

\* \* \* \* \*

**5. Allowable Uses:** Uses within Receiving Lands are limited to the following:

\* \* \* \* \*

- k) Golf courses or driving ranges, subject to the following standards:



# Exhibit B –Process and Staff Improvements

(1) The minimum density shall be as follows:

(a) For golf course projects, including both freestanding golf courses and golf courses with associated residential development: one TDR credit shall be required for every five (5) gross acres of land area utilized as part of the golf course, including the clubhouse area, rough, fairways, greens, and lakes, but excluding any area dedicated as conservation that is non-irrigated and retained in a natural state. Any residential development associated with the golf course shall have a minimum density of one (1) dwelling unit per five acres.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 7. Open Space and Native Vegetation Preservation Requirements: (XV)

a) Usable Open Space: Within Receiving Lands projects greater than 40 acres in size shall provide a minimum of 70% usable open space. Usable Open Space includes active or passive recreation areas such as parks, playgrounds, golf courses, waterways, lakes, nature trails, and other similar open spaces. Usable Open Space shall also include areas set aside for conservation or preservation of native vegetation and lawn, yard and landscape areas. Open water beyond the perimeter of the site, street right of-way, except where dedicated or donated for public uses, driveways, off-street parking and loading areas, shall not be counted towards required Usable Open Space.”

15) Recognize the important function of golf courses is to provide a source of green space, recreational amenities, social activities, natural and unique views, or wildlife habitat to the surrounding communities. Case studies of golf course conversion illustrate that when open space is maintained or made useable to the surrounding neighborhoods, compromise and consensus is achieved.

16) An improved ITC process will require developers a better engagement activity and early start to reach out to residential neighborhoods to discuss their proposal and gain support. Shifting certain requirements from the ITC process to the rezone will make the process more palatable to the developer. Obtaining input and support from residents surrounding the golf course is important to building consensus on the development proposal. In some instances development would be more feasible than others. This is why there is an alternative to the standard greenway design; so if the stakeholders support and the Board approves it, the greenway may be designed differently.

## Exhibit C – Other Communities Standards

### **Estero, FL Section: 4-221. Golf Course Conversion. B. Conversion Standards.**

Requires a *minimum of 50 percent open space* in the master concept plan for the area to be converted. All non-golf course uses, except for passive recreational use and preserve areas, shall be set back a *minimum average of 70 feet* from lands zoned for or used as residential uses, but *in no case shall be less than 50 feet* at any one location.

### **Bonita Springs, FL: Division 43. Golf Course Redevelopment Regulations.**

Section 4-2312 d.(7)., requires a *minimum of 50' wide buffer* between existing neighborhoods and any redevelopment. The buffer shall be measured from the property line and it shall include screening a minimum of six feet in height, and be vegetative in nature. Areas of the golf course that remain golf course after redevelopment is complete are exempt from the buffer requirement.

Section 4-2312 d. (9)., states, a redevelopment proposal may propose trails or pathways within the property. If developer proposes to reduce the required buffer, a minimum 12 foot wide paved trail with canopy trees planted at 50 feet on-center shall be provided.

Section 4-2312 d.(11)., requires minimum 40% open space. Where repurposing will result in the elimination or reduction in size of a contiguous golf course or open space, the developer shall consider providing other facilities or amenities or resources that might help offset or mitigate the impact of elimination or reduction. Open space, park and recreational areas should be spread throughout a development and connected with multiuse pathways. 50% of all required open space shall be green or landscape areas.

### **Fulton County, GA: Appendix B, Article XIX, Section 19.3.4 Golf Course. B. Standards.**

"1. A *minimum 100-foot setback* for all buildings and parking areas shall be provided adjacent to any residential district and/or AG-1 district used for single-family.

\* \* \* \* \*

4. When located outside a golf course/subdivision development, a *minimum 50-foot wide buffer and a ten-foot improvement setback* shall be provided adjacent to all buildings and parking areas when said facilities are located adjacent to any residential district and/or AG-1 district used for single family."

### **Lexington County, SC: Section 14-143. Golf Course Redevelopment.**

The County requires *at least 100' buffer strip* of open space. Where there is a larger tract of land containing a house adjoining the golf course the following apply: The residential activity (generally the building footprint) that is more than 300 feet from this property line does not qualify for this open space amenity, and a residential activity that is within 300 feet of, but more than 150 feet from the golf course qualifies for an open space buffer of 50 feet.

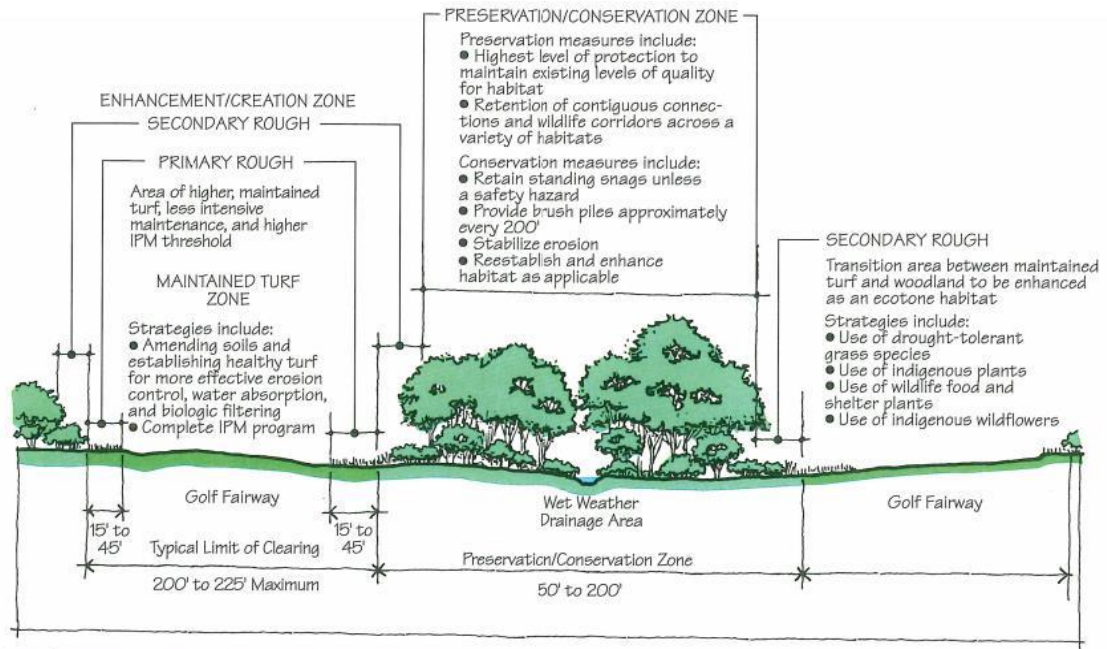
### **Hendersonville, NC: Section 4.05 B. Greenways.**

Greenway easement must be *at least 50 feet wide* and include a 10 feet wide all weather surface trail (paved, either asphalt or concrete) (trail edged with gravel shoulders of at least one foot in width on each side). Greenway dedication or easement is credited towards requirements for public parks. Lands associated with a greenway dedication or easement shall be credited towards any open space set-aside requirements.

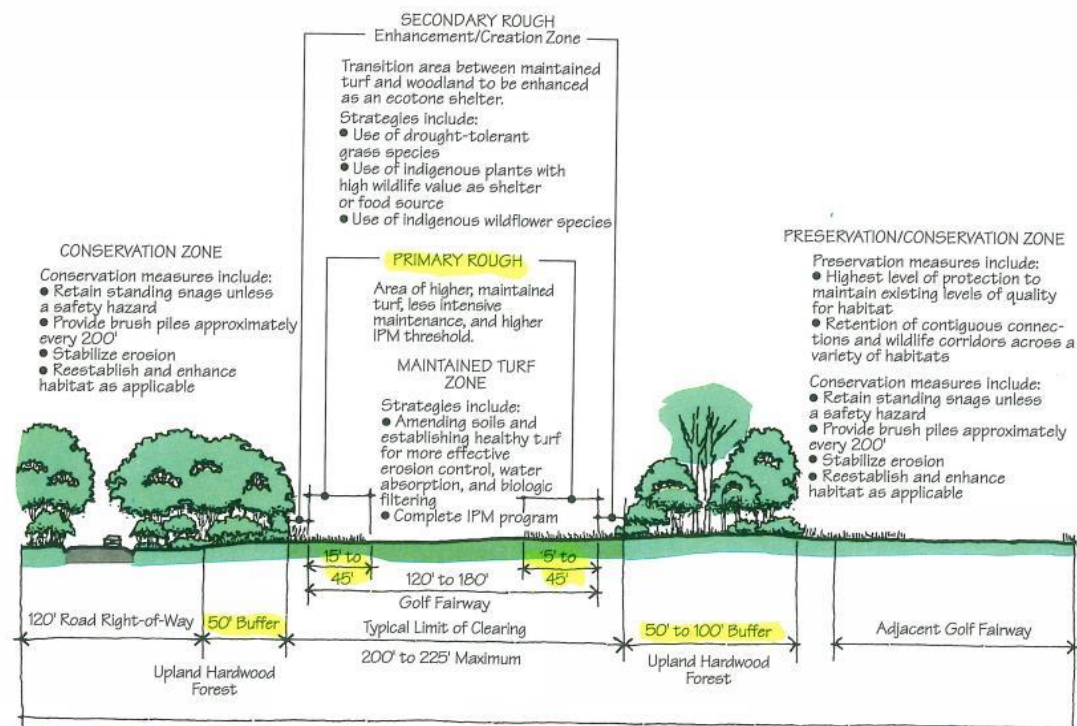
### **Palm Springs, CA: Chapter 93.23.20 Conversion of Golf Courses, (F) Development Standards.**

A required desert greenway shall have a *minimum average width of 100 feet and no less than 75 feet* at any one location. The Council may approve an alternative design that was considered by the Planning Commission.

# Exhibit D – Golf Course Conceptual Design



**Typical concept section for wet weather drainage areas.**  
 Source: Guy L. Rando & Associates Inc.



**Typical concept section for adjacent fairways.**  
 Source: Guy L. Rando & Associates Inc.

## Exhibit E – Golf Course Inventory 2023

<b>Table 1. 2023 Golf Course Inventory in Collier County</b>						
<b>Excluding Incorporated Marco Island and City of Naples</b>						
<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Golf Holes</b>	<b>Private/ Public</b>
<b><i>Golf Course Zoned Golf Course (1,409 Total Acres)</i></b>						
1	Country Club of Naples	185 Burning Tree Dr	GC	140.55	18	Private
2	Evergreen (aka Ironwood)	4710 Lakewood Blvd.	GC	33.85	18	Public
3	Glades Golf & CC	174 & 187 Teryl Rd 186 Teryl Rd	GC RMF 6 RMF 16	87.53	36	Private
4	Hibiscus Golf Club	5375 Hibiscus D 254 Pinehurst Circle 5376 Hibiscus Dr	GC	161.78	18	Public
5	Imperial Golf Club	1808 Imperial Golf Co Blvd / 13204 Wedgefield Dr	GC	297.38	36	Private
6	Lakewood CC	4236 Lakewood Blvd 4341 Beechwood Lake Dr	GC	54.25	18	Private
7	Palm River CC (LaPlaya)	532 Cypress Way East 220 Cypress Way East (Maintenance Bldg.) 113 Viking Way (Administration Bldg.)	GC RSF-3	142.27	18	Private
8	Quail Creek CC	13300 Valewood Dr-North 13296 Valewood Dr-South	GC	316.9	36	Private
9	Quail Run Golf Club	499 Forest Lakes Blvd 1 Forest Lakes Blvd	GC	80.84	18	Private
10	Riviera Golf Club of Naples	164 Estelle Dr	GC	93.53	18	Public
<b><i>PUD Zoned Golf Courses (10,720 total acres)</i></b>						
11	Arrowhead Golf Course	2205 Heritage Greens Dr	PUD	140.59	18	Public
12	Audubon CC- East 12 holes	3801 Woods Edge Parkway /16315 Vanderbilt Dr/225 Audubon Blvd	PUD	240.91	18	Private
13	Bentley Village Golf Club-The Retreat	2550 Golfside Dr	PUD	22	18	Private
14	Cedar Hammock Golf & CC	8660 Cedar Hammock Blvd /8661 Cedar Hammock Blvd	PUD	112.33	18	Private
15	Classic CC at Lely Resort	9359 Lely Resort Blvd/7989 Grand Lely Dr	PUD	223.04	18	Private
16	Club at Mediterra	15755 Corso Mediterra Cir 15442 Corso Mediterra Cir 15755 Corso Mediterra Cir	PUD	305.4	36	Private

## Exhibit E – Golf Course Inventory 2023

		15519 Corso Mediterra Cir				
		15464 Corso Mediterra Cir				
		15462 Corso Mediterra Cir				
		16899 Livingston Rd				
17	Club at Pelican Bay	7513 Pelican Bay Blvd /707 Gulf Park Dr./ 708 Gulf Park Dr.	PUD	215.26	27	Private
18	Collier's Reserve CC	11711 Collier's Reserve Dr 11715 Collier's Reserve Dr	PUD PUD	199.7	18	Private
19	Countryside Golf Club	600 Countryside dry	PUD	144.01	18	Private
20	Cypress Woods Golf & CC	3486 Grand Cypress Ct 3010 Northbrooke Dr	PUD	175.72	18	Public
21	Eagle Creek CC	11 Cypress View Dr	PUD	150.64	18	Private
22	Esplanade Country Club	8915 Torre Vista Lane	PUD	170.38	18	Public
23	Forest Glen Golf & CC	3855 Forest Glen Blvd 3859 Forest Glen Blvd	PUD	201.65	18	Private
24	Foxfire CC	1030 Kings Way 4304 Flamingo Dr	PUD	270.09	27	Private
25	Glen Eagle @ Bretonne Park	1403 Glen Eagle Blvd	PUD	147.35	18	Private
26	Golden Gate Golf Course	4100 Golden Gate Parkway	GC	112	12	Public
27	Grey Oaks Golf & CC	2756 Buckthorn Way 3035 Indigobush Way 2400 Grey Oaks Dr N 2600 Golden Gate Parkway 2428 Grey Oaks Dr S 2600 Golden Gate Parkway 1732 Grey Oaks Dr S	PUD	420.9	36	Private
28	Heritage Bay Golf Course- CH&P	10154 Heritage Bay Blvd 10171 Heritage Bay Blvd 10357 Heritage Bay Blvd 10378 Smokehouse Bay Dr	PUD- RFMUD PUD	142.213	27	Public
29	Kensington Golf & CC	2700 Pine Ridge Rd 5356 Kensington Park Blvd 4084 Kensington High St	PUD	174.54	18	Private
30	Lely Flamingo Island Club	8006 Lely Resort Blvd 8135 Tiger Island Blvd 8170 Tiger Island Blvd 8006 Lely Resort Blvd.	PUD	260.88	18	Private

## Exhibit E – Golf Course Inventory 2023

		9284 Lely Resort Blvd				
31	Marco Shores (The Rookery)	8999 Fiddler's Creek Parkway	PUD	243.53	18	Private
32	Marco Shores CC (Hammock Bay Golf & CC)	2000 Mainsail Dr 1390 Borghese Lane	PUD	137.31	18	Private
33	Mustang @ Lely Resort	7870 Grand Lely Drive	PUD	221.71	18	Private
34	Naples Grande Golf Club (Grey Oaks)	7220 Golden Gate Parkway 7335 Premier Dr	PUD	169.333	18	Private
35	Naples Heritage	8150 Heritage Club Way	PUD	170.15	18	Private
36	Naples Lakes CC	4784 Naples Lakes Blvd	PUD	364.58	18	Private
37	Naples National Golf Club	9325 Collier Blvd	PUD	312.42	18	Private
38	Old Collier Golf Club	790 Main House Dr	PUD	460.4	18	Private
39	Olde Golf Club at Cypress	7199 Treeline Dr 7165 Immokalee Rd 2470 Logan Blvd N	PUD	167.66	18	Private
40	Pelican Marsh Golf Club	1505 Pelican Marsh Blvd 1810 Persimmon Dr  8787 Airport Rd 8801 Muirfield Dr	PUD	213.29	18	Private
41	Bay Colony Club	9740 Bent Grass Bend	PUD	162.24	18	Private
42	Quail Village Golf Club	11723 Quail Village Way	PUD	78.52	18	Private
43	Quail West Golf & CC	6870 Bernwood Farms Rd 5950 Burnham Rd	PUD	254.55	36	Private
44	Quarry at Heritage Bay (The Golf Lodge)	8950 Weathered Stone Rd  8950 Weathered Stone Rd 8960 Weathered Stone Rd 9052 Quarry Dr 9815 Nickel Ridge Cir 9488 Quarry Dr 9385 Weathered Stone Rd 9395 Weathered Stone Rd	PUD- RFMUD  PUD	173.98	18	Private
45	Fiddler's Creek (The Creek)	3478 Club Center Blvd 3473 Runaway Lane  3480 Runaway Lane 3470 Club Center Blvd	PUD	144.7	18	Private
46	Royal Palm CC	405 Forest Hills Blvd	PUD	188.67	18	Private
47	Royal Wood Golf & CC	4300 Royal wood Blvd	PUD	128.08	18	Private

## Exhibit E – Golf Course Inventory 2023

60	Boyne South Golf Course	18895 Royal Hammock Blvd 18100 Lake Hammock Dr 18047 Royal Hammock Blvd	RFMUD- PUD	167.98	18	Public
61	Olde Florida Golf Club	8835 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Ext 8836 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Ext	RFMUD- PUD	328.72	18	Private
62	Golf Club of the Everglades	24311 Walden Center	RFMUD- PUD	246.37	18	Private
63	Kinsale Golf Club <i>Under Construction</i>	13968 Vanderbilt Dr 14492 Cocohatchee Rd.	PUD	171.76	18	Private
<b>Agricultural Zoned Golf Courses (2,638 total acres)</b>						
64	Twin Eagles Golf & CC	11725 Twin Eagles Blvd 11729 Twin Eagles Blvd	A-MHO- RFMUD	644.92	36	Private
65	Bonita Bay Club East	11611 Immokalee Rd	A-CU- RFMUD	1027.79	36	Private
66	Hideout Golf Club	3065 Brantley Blvd 3050 Brantley Blvd	A-CU- RFMUD	190	18	Private
67	Calusa Pines	2000 Calusa Pines Dr 2001 Calusa Pines Dr 2250 Ridge Dr	A-CU- RFMUD	225.54	18	Private
68	Links of Naples	16169 Tamiami Trl E 16151 Tamiami Trl E 11090 E. Hamilton Rd 16169 Tamiami Trl E	A-CU- RFMUD	82.68	18	Public
69	Panther Run	6041 Anthem Parkway 6055 Anthem Parkway 6005 Anthem Parkway 5455 Ave Maria Blvd 6005 Anthem Parkway	A- MHOI- RLSAO	253.98	18	Public
70	National Golf & CC at Ave Maria	5909 Double Eagle Circle	A-MHO- RSLAO	213.18	18	Semi-Private
<b>RMF-16 Zoned Golf Courses (29 total acres)</b>						
71	High Point CC	1100 High Point Dr	RMF-16	29	9	Public
				Total Sum	14,795.9	

**Note:** Additional undeveloped golf courses are permitted PUD uses within, Fiddler's Creek (The Preserve), Heritage in Immokalee, Orange Blossom Ranch, and Rivergrass Village SRA.

**Research Methodology:** 1) Each parcel encompassing all areas of a golf course where located and reviewed by GIS aerials including but not limited to; clubhouse and parking, parking range, maintenance buildings, lakes, wetlands adjoining and within a golf course at the current Real Property Appraiser's Website. The land use codes, acreage size, and addresses are derived from the County Real Property Appraiser's project summary sheets. The County's real property Land Use Codes included: LUC-38 golf course driving ranges, LUC- 28 parking lots, LUC-99 non-agricultural acreage, LUC-95 Rivers and Lakes, submerged lands or LUC-96 borrow pits, drainage reservoirs, waste lands, marsh, swamps, etc. In some instances, the land use code could be undetermined and additional research was required or established from a prior inventory. The property address names were then compared to confirm or validate the various entities owning the golf course to ensure consistency. In the case of a bundled golf course community where everyone has equal ownership, the most frequent property name found was by a master or community association. Careful attention was given to avoid inclusion of common master community association maintained or owned parcels that do not support a golf course function or operation. The above total acres column contains one or more parcels for each address. 2) The number of golf holes derived for each course or golf club was verified by a website and in other cases aerial counted and confirmed in a telephone call. 3) The course status (private or public) was carried over from staff's prior studies and is subject to change as reported to the National Golf Club Foundation or by club membership direction or subsequent change.

## LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT

**PETITION**

PL20230018350

**ORIGIN**

Board of County  
Commissioners (Board)

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT**

This amendment updates the provisions related to the removal of prohibited exotic vegetation in the Land Development Code (LDC) by identifying additional site improvements that may occur without initiating the removal requirements. LDC amendments are reviewed by the Board, Collier County Planning Commission (CCPC), Development Services Advisory Committee (DSAC), and the Land Development Review Subcommittee of the DSAC (DSAC-LDR).

**HEARING DATES**

BCC           TBD  
 CCPC         TBD  
 DSAC         TBC  
 DSAC-LDR   01/16/2024

**LDC SECTION TO BE AMENDED**

03.05.08 Requirement for Removal of Prohibited Exotic Vegetation

### ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

**DSAC-LDR**  
TBD

**DSAC**  
TBD

**CCPC**  
TBD

**BACKGROUND**

The first tree protection ordinance was adopted by the County, pursuant to Ord. 1973-23. It included provisions for a tree removal permit process, and it identified a short list of tree species that were exempted from protection. The ordinance was amended in 1974 and then repealed/replaced twice; once in 1975 and again in 1976, the latter of which representing the time when the County adopted comprehensive zoning regulations for the Coastal Area Planning District (i.e., Ord. 1976-30).

When Ord. 1979-73 was adopted, the County started requiring the removal of exotic plants on properties where improvements were proposed, except on lands used for agricultural purposes or on properties zoned and platted for single-family residential homes. In January 1982, the County adopted a new zoning ordinance (Ord. 1982-2); however, this new ordinance inadvertently omitted the Exotic Vegetation Section until it was corrected in May 1982 with the adoption of Ord. 1982-37, reinstating the requirement that exotics be removed on all lands, except for single-family residential use or agriculturally zoned lands.

Additional changes to the code would be made over the years, notably with the adoption of Ord. 2004-08, which introduced the requirement for preserve management plans and the removal of exotic vegetation within the first 75 feet of the outer edge of every preserve; however, single family residences were specifically exempted. When the code was comprehensively updated again with the passage of Ord. 2004-41, the requirement for removing exotic vegetation prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy was extended to include new principal and accessory structures on single and two family lots. However, tents, awnings, cabanas, utility storage sheds, and screen enclosures were not exempted until the adoption of Ord. 2005-27.

Subsequent amendments to LDC section 3.05.08 occurred in 2008 and 2015. At the Board hearing on December





Growth Management  
Community Development Department  
Zoning Division

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12, 2023, under Staff and Commission General Communications, Commissioner Hall requested that staff update the LDC as it pertains to the removal of exotic vegetation.

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**FISCAL & OPERATIONAL IMPACTS**

There are no anticipated fiscal or operational impacts associated with this amendment.

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**GMP CONSISTENCY**

To be provided by Comprehensive Planning Staff after first review.

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**EXHIBITS:** None

1 Amend the LDC as follows:

2 **3.05.08 – Requirements for Removal of Prohibited Exotic Vegetation**

3  
4 Prohibited exotic vegetation specifically includes the following:

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6 Earleaf acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*)

7  
8 Australian pine (*Casuarina* spp.)

9  
10 Melaleuca (*Melaleuca* spp.)

11  
12 Catclaw mimose (*Minosa pigra*)

13  
14 Downy rosemyrtle (*Rhodomyrtus tomentosa*)

15  
16 Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*)

17  
18 Java plum (*Syzygium cumini*)

19  
20 Women's tongue (*Albizia lebbbeck*)

21  
22 Climbing fern (*Lygodium* spp.)

23  
24 Air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

25  
26 Lather leaf (*Colubrina asiatica*)

27  
28 Carrotwood (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*)

29  
30 A. General.

- 31  
32 1. Prohibited exotic vegetation removal and methods of removal shall be conducted  
33 in accordance with the specific provisions of each local development order.  
34  
35 2. Native vegetation shall be protected during the process of removing prohibited  
36 exotic vegetation, in accord with the provisions of LDC section 3.05.04.  
37  
38 3. Prohibited exotic vegetation shall be removed from the following locations, and  
39 within the following timeframes:  
40  
41 a. From all rights-of-way, common area tracts not proposed for development,  
42 and easements prior to preliminary acceptance of each phase of the  
43 required subdivision improvements.  
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45 b. From each phase of a site development plan prior to the issuance of the  
46 certificate of occupancy for that phase.  
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- c. From all golf course fairways, roughs, and adjacent open space/natural preserve areas prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the first permitted structure associated with the golf course facility.
  - d. From property proposing any enlargement of existing interior floor space, paved parking area, or substantial site improvement prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.
4. In the case of the discontinuance of use or occupation of land or water or structure for a period of 90 consecutive days or more, property owners shall, prior to subsequent use of such land or water or structure, conform to the regulations specified by this section.
5. Verification of prohibited exotic vegetation removal shall be performed by the County Manager or designee.6.Herbicides utilized in the removal of prohibited exotic vegetation shall have been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Any person who supervises up to eight (8) people in the application of pesticides and herbicides in the chemical maintenance of exotic vegetation in preserves, required retained native vegetation areas, wetlands, or LSPA shall maintain the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services certifications for Natural Areas Pesticide Applicators or Aquatic Herbicide Applicators dependent upon the specific area to be treated. When prohibited exotic vegetation is removed, but the base of the vegetation remains, the base shall be treated with an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved herbicide and a visual tracer dye shall be applied.
- B. Exotic vegetation maintenance plan. A maintenance plan shall be submitted to the County Manager or designee for review on sites which require prohibited exotic vegetation removal prior to the issuance of the local development order. This maintenance plan shall describe specific techniques to prevent reinvasion by prohibited exotic vegetation of the site in perpetuity. This maintenance plan shall be implemented on a yearly basis at a minimum. Issuance of the local development order shall be contingent upon approval of the maintenance plan. Noncompliance with this plan shall constitute violation of this section. The County Manager or designee shall inspect sites periodically after issuance of the certificate of occupancy, or other final acceptance, for compliance with this section.
- C. Applicability to new structures and to additions on single-family and two-family lots. In addition to the other requirements of this section, the applicant shall be required to remove all prohibited exotic vegetation within the approved cleared area and within seven and one-half (7.5) feet from all property lines before a certificate of occupancy is granted on any new principal ~~structure or accessory structure and any additions to the square footage of the principal or accessory structures~~ on single-family or two-family lots. This shall not apply to residential accessory structures, including but not limited to detached garages, carports, swimming pools, tents, awnings, cabanas, utility storage sheds, or screened enclosures not having a roof impervious to weather. This shall not apply to interior remodeling of any existing structure.
- The removal of prohibited exotic vegetation shall be required in perpetuity within allowed clearing areas and within seven and one-half (7.5) feet from all property lines. Upon issuance of a vegetation removal permit, subject to the provisions in LDC section 3.05.02

1 F. and G., prohibited exotic vegetation may be removed prior to issuance of a building  
2 permit.  
3

4 D. Exceptions. Prohibited exotic vegetation may remain on property when the County  
5 Manager or designee receives a request from the property owner to retain the vegetation.  
6 The County Manager or designee shall approve such a request upon finding that at least  
7 one of the following criteria has been met.  
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9 1. The prohibited exotic vegetation has been previously approved through the County  
10 development review process and planted in accordance with the landscape  
11 requirements at the time of final local development order approval.  
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13 2. The subject lot is developed with, or proposed to be developed with, a single family  
14 dwelling unit, and:  
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16 a. is not within the RFMU Sending Lands overlay district; and  
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18 b. is not within a NRPA overlay district; and  
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20 c. is not located on a undeveloped coastal barrier island; and  
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22 d. the vegetation requested to be retained is an existing Java plum tree(s) that  
23 has attained a single-trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) of 18 inches or  
24 more.  
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26 3. The prohibited exotic vegetation contains a nest of a bald eagle. Where such  
27 vegetation occurs within a bald eagle nest protection zone, removal shall be in  
28 accordance with the FWC Bald Eagle Management Plan and FWC Bald Eagle  
29 Management Guidelines, or as otherwise permitted by the FWC and/or USFWS.  
30 Where a bald eagle nest is determined to be "lost" as defined by the FWC, such  
31 vegetation shall be removed as required by LDC section 3.05.08.  
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