

TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND

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January 12, 2010

Bob Dennis, Regional Planning Administrator
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Dear Mr. Dennis:

RE: Martin County EAR Amendments

On behalf of the five-person Town Commission of the Town of Jupiter Island, in Martin County, Florida, I wish to commend the Department of Community Affairs for its Objections to the EAR Amendments to Martin County's Growth Management Plan, submitted by Martin County and representing the majority opinion of Martin County's commissioners.

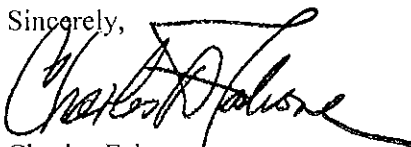
Regrettably, in our considered opinion, these proposed amendments do not reflect the will of the residents of Jupiter Island, nor do they reflect the will of the residents of Martin County. Rather, they represent the concerted efforts of a focused gathering of parties with commercial interest in the development opportunities that would result from these changes in the future. It's sad that our elected officials are motivated to respond to those interests in this way.

We are aware of the position taken by the Guardians of Martin County in a letter addressed to the DCA dated December 31, 2009, and we wholeheartedly endorse their point of view. As the Guardians have expressed, we, too, do not wish to see the County's Comprehensive Plan changed in such radical ways, and we wish to maintain the integrity of the County's Urban Services District as it is now constituted.

It is ironic that at this time of economic dormancy the commercial interests are putting on a "full court press" to bring about these changes. Clearly there is no present need for them. The motivated parties are trying to seize the opportunity to revise the County's development framework so that when the opportunity for economic growth returns, they will be able to enjoy unhampered commercial expansion. This may be in their business interests, but it would change the character of the County adversely and is not in the long term interests of present or future County residents.

We fervently hope that you will remain firm in opposing these changes in Martin County's Comprehensive Plan.

Sincerely,



Charles Falcone
Mayor