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Public hearings begin on comprehensive plan changes

Public hearings on proposed amendments to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan will begin next week.

The Sarasota County Planning Commission will conduct the first of three public hearings on the amendments at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23, in the Commission Chamber, Robert L. Anderson Administration Center, 4000 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice.

Subsequent workshops will take place Thursday, Aug. 6, in the Commission Chamber, County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota and Thursday, Aug. 20, in Commission Chamber, Robert L. Anderson Administration Center, 4000 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice. Both meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

During the July 23 meeting, planning commissioners will take public comments and consider the following proposed amendments which will affect several chapters of the comprehensive plan:

- Expanding the boundaries of the Englewood Town Center by approximately 19 acres as recommended by the Englewood Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board, the Chamber of Commerce and the Olde Englewood Village Association.
- Updating text and amending existing policies, and adding a policy regarding water supply planning.
- Adding the adoption of three new impact fee ordinances and revising a policy regarding school concurrency.

Other proposed changes to the comprehensive plan that the Planning Commission will consider at later public hearings include:

- Identifying significant local roads and providing related data and analysis
- Adding new policies for transit services and revising existing objectives and policies
- Amending policies, tables and maps for adopted roadway levels of service standards
- Adding new policies to deal with nonconforming residential densities
- Adding policies and maps recognizing the Lemon Bay/Myakka Trail Scenic Highway and the Tamiami Trail Scenic Highway

- Amending policies to limit residential densities in the Light Office and Neighborhood Commercial designations

For more information, call the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for Planning Services, or visit www.scgov.net and click the button for Comprehensive Plan Amendment Updates.