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## County commission to consider comprehensive plan changes

Sarasota County commissioners will conduct public hearings next week to consider adoption of proposed amendments to the county's comprehensive plan.

Commissioners will conduct adoption-stage public hearings on the amendments during their regular meetings Tuesday, April 13, and Wednesday, April 14, in the Commission Chamber, County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. The meetings begin at 9 a.m. both days.

During the April 13 public hearing, which begins at 1:30 p.m., commissioners will take public comments and consider adopting the following amendments which will affect several chapters of the comprehensive plan:

- Expanding the boundaries of the Englewood Town Center by about 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 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 designations.

During the April 14 public hearing, which begins at 9 a.m., commissioners will take public comments and consider adopting these final three changes to the comprehensive plan:

- Identifying significant local roads and providing related data and analysis.
- Adding new policies to deal with nonconforming residential densities.
- Adding the adoption of three new impact fee ordinances and revising a policy on school concurrency.

The seven amendments were subjected to public hearings before the planning commission and county commission in 2009. Following those public hearings, the amendments were sent to the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for review and comment. The adoption-stage public hearings are the culmination of incorporating the comments and responses made during the DCA review process. If commissioners decide to adopt them, the amendments will be transmitted to DCA for a compliance review. If found in compliance, the amendments could be effective as early as late May.

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

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