

Putin: Russia won't give up seized Ukraine regions

Cybele Mayes-Osterman
USA TODAY

Russian President Vladimir Putin is hosting a summit of nearly two dozen world leaders in an effort to snub Western leaders who've tried to shut Russia out of the global economy after his invasion of Ukraine more than two years ago.

The BRICS summit is based on "common values, a common vision of development and, most importantly, the principle of taking into account each other's interests," Putin said Tuesday.

Pressed by reporters on how that vision squares with his invasion of Ukraine, Putin said he has no intention of giving up the parts of Ukraine now under Russian control - Crimea, which it seized a decade ago, and most of the eastern Donbas, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions.

Four days earlier, Putin said it was in Russia's interests to come to a "lasting peace" in Ukraine. But Russia will keep fighting until victory, he said.

His remarks came as Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin announced another \$400 million in aid for Ukraine during a visit to Kyiv on Monday.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Washington was readying two more packages worth up to \$800 million each for the war-battered army.

The BRICS alliance, originally comprised of Brazil, Russia, India, and China, now includes countries that make up 45% of the world's population. World leaders from 22 countries are expected to attend the summit in Kazan, a city of around 1.3 million in southwestern Russia on the banks of the Volga River.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said he was "glad to be in Kazan" as he arrived on Tuesday. Putin and the Chinese leader, who he called his "dear friend," have tightened economic and military ties since Russia's invasion of Ukraine isolated it from trade with the West.

The night before the summit, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Putin that his ongoing conflict with Ukraine "should be resolved only through peaceful means."

"We fully support the early restoration of peace and stability. All our efforts give priority to humanity," Modi said.

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva canceled his trip to Russia on Sunday after he suffered a minor brain hemorrhage from a head injury in his home. He will attend the summit remotely.

The U.S. slapped heavy sanctions on Russia after its Feb. 2022 invasion of Ukraine, including major blocks on the transactions of Russian financial institutions, banning U.S. imports of Russian energy products, and personal sanctions on Russian oligarchs in Putin's inner circle.

Although Russia felt the impact, some U.S. lawmakers said the sanctions didn't hit the economy hard enough.

In the BRICS alliance, Putin hopes to rebuff Western efforts to stifle the Russian economy. BRICS countries make up 35% of the global economy by purchasing power parity, with China responsible for around half of its economic power.

Ex-Abercrombie CEO accused of sex trafficking

N'dea Yancey-Bragg and Mark Williams
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michael Jeffries, the former CEO of Abercrombie & Fitch, was arrested and is being charged with two others in the operation of a secretive, international sex trafficking scheme that lasted for years, cost millions of dollars and involved dozens of victims, prosecutors said Tuesday.

Jeffries, who served as CEO from 1992 to 2014, Matthew Smith of West Palm Beach and James Jacobson of Wisconsin were charged with sex trafficking and engaging in interstate prostitution, Breon Peace, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, said at a news conference.

The operation involved transporting young, aspiring male models to events in New York City and around the world, and coercing them into having sex. The men believed participating in the events would lead to modeling opportunities and further their careers.

"To anyone who thinks they can exploit and coerce others by using this so-called casting couch system, this case should serve as a warning: Prepare to trade that couch for a bed in federal prison," Peace said.

Legal representation for Jeffries has previously "vehemently denied" any wrongdoing, according to the BBC.

"We will respond in detail to the allegations after the indictment is unsealed, and when appropriate, but plan to do so in the courthouse - not the media," Brian Bieber, Jeffries' attorney, said in a statement to USA TODAY.

The news comes after a group of once-aspiring Abercrombie & Fitch male models filed a class-action

lawsuit last year against Jeffries and Abercrombie alleging the retailer looked the other way while Jeffries ran a sex-trafficking ring and sexually assaulted numerous young men.

The proposed class action filed by former model David Bradberry in Manhattan federal court claims Jeffries forced models to take drugs and engage in sexual acts with him and others for the chance to be featured in Abercrombie's provocative catalogs. The lawsuit alleged that company officers knew about the conduct and Abercrombie paid settlements to people who accused Jeffries of abuse or harassment.

"In exchange for providing the power and unfettered access to corporate funds necessary for Jeffries to sexually terrorize aspiring male models, Abercrombie knowingly and intentionally benefited from

received things of value from Jeffries and his sex-trafficking operation, including the value Jeffries himself brought to the brand," the lawsuit said.

Brittany Henderson, an attorney representing some of the aspiring models, called Tuesday's arrests "monumental" in a statement to USA TODAY.

"Their fight for justice does not end here," Henderson said. "In addition to supporting the criminal prosecution, our clients look forward to holding Abercrombie & Fitch liable for facilitating this terrible conduct and ensuring that this cannot happen again."

Last year, Jeffries sued his former employer because it refused to cover his costs from the lawsuit. A judge earlier this year ruled that the allegations were tied to Jeffries' corporate role and the retailer must cover the cost of his legal defense, the BBC reported.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency and the Board of County Commissioners of Martin County will conduct public hearings to consider proposed changes to the Architectural Design Standards for the Martin County Community Redevelopment Agency, pursuant to the following item:

AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE 12, COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT CODE, LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, MARTIN COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY, CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE


All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. The meetings will be held in the Commission Chambers on the first floor of the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida, at the following times and dates:

- Public hearing: **LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY (LPA)**
Time and date: **7:00 PM**, or as soon after as the matter may be heard on **Thursday, November 7, 2024**
- Public hearing: **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)**
Time and date: **9:00 AM**, or as soon after as the matter may be heard on **Tuesday, November 12, 2024**

Written comments may be mailed to: Susan Kores, Director, Office of Community Development, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. Copies of the items will be available from the Office of Community Development Department. For more information, contact the Office of Community Development at (772) 221-2487.

Persons with disabilities who need accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL, 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, council, or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

A Public and Virtual Meeting will be conducted before the PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD of the City of Port St. Lucie on **Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 6:00 pm**, on the following:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. P24-050 **EKOMY SELF-STORAGE - REZONING**
Property Location: The property is located at 1915 SW Hayworth Avenue.
Legal Description: Port St. Lucie, Section 31, Block 1705, Lot 14.
This is a request to rezone 0.24 acres from the Single Family Residential (RS-2) to Service Commercial (CS) zoning district.
- B. P24-070 **RAVELLO PUD (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT NO. 10 - ZONING REGULATION BOOK AND CONCEPT PLAN**
Property Location: The property is located east of the North Fork of the St. Lucie River between Westmoreland Boulevard, Cambridge Drive, and Morningside Boulevard.
Legal Description: A copy of the legal description is available in the Planning and Zoning Department.
This is a request to revise the PUD to reclassify approximately 7 acres of property identified as Parcel 1 on the PUD concept plan from Commercial use to institutional use for the previously approved 150 unit assisted living facility. Other changes include renaming the PUD from the Ravello PUD to the Rivella PUD, updates to the permitted uses for Parcel 1 to remove Child Daycare as a permitted use, and to identify that the previously approved 150 unit assisted living facility can include up to 75 units for independent living units consistent with City Code, and other miscellaneous changes.
- C. P24-094 **EKOMY SELF-STORAGE-COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT - SMALL SCALE**
Property Location: The property is located at 1915 SW Hayworth Avenue.
Legal Description: Port St. Lucie Section 31, Block 1705, Lot 14.
This is a request to change the future land use designation from General Commercial (CG) to Service Commercial (CS).
- D. P24-111 **CLUBMED/SANDPIPER RESORT - PUD AMENDMENT NO. 1**
Property Location: The property is located at 3500 SE Morningside Boulevard.
Legal Description: A copy of the legal description is available in the Planning and Zoning Department.
This is a request to amend the Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning regulation document for Club Med/Sandpiper. The proposed application amends the following: adding uses such as school, accessory food service structures, and private soccer fields that are accessory to the school. The proposal also includes rezoning approximately 10 acres of land to add to the 216-acre PUD for recreational and conservation uses.
- E. P24-116 **HASS TOWNHOMES - REZONING**
Property Location: The property is located at 810 SW Haas Avenue.
Legal Description: Port St. Lucie Section 33, Block 2299, Lots 11 thru 14.
This is a request to redesign a Limited Mixed Use District (LMD) conceptual plan to allow for the construction of 11 townhomes, per Section 158.155(C)(2) of the Zoning Code.
- F. P24-119 **SOUTHERN GROVE - FIRE STATION NO. 20 CELL TOWER - SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE**
Property location: The property is located at 12440 SW Village Parkway.
Legal Description: Southern Grove Plat No. 40, Parcel 2.
This is a request for a Special Exception Use (SEU) to allow a wireless communication tower in the Neighborhood Village Center, per Section 1(C)(1) of the Tradition Commerce Park North Master Planned Unit Development (MPUD).
- G. P24-130 **CLUBMED/SANDPIPER - COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT - SMALL SCALE**
Property Location: The property is located at 3500 SE Morningside Boulevard.
Legal Description: A copy of the legal description is available in the Planning and Zoning Department.
This is a request to change the future land use designation from Commercial Limited (CL) to Commercial General/Institutional (CG/I) for 6.83 acres of the overall 96.46-acre project site.
- H. P24-142 **CITY OF PSL - INTERMODAL TRANSIT FACILITY - LANDSCAPE MODIFICATION - BUFFER WALL**
Property Location: The property is located on the west side of SE Belvedere Street between Deacon and Thanksgiving Avenues.
Legal Description: Port St. Lucie Section 18, Tract "D".
This is a request to waive the requirements for an architectural wall on the northern perimeter of the property per Section 154.12 of the Landscape and Land Clearing Code. Per Section 154.03(C)5 of the Landscape and Land Clearing Code. The request is to provide landscaping in lieu of a wall to enhance public safety and allow for ease of maintenance.
- I. P24-161 **BOGEY BAY LLC - SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE**
Property Location: The property is located on the northeast corner of Gatlin Boulevard and Bougainvillea Avenue.
Legal Description: Port St. Lucie Section 23, Block 1615, Lot 1.
This is a request for a Special Exception Use (SEU) to allow a bar in the CG (General Commercial) Zoning District. As per Section 158.124(C)(6) - Special Exception Use requirements within the General Commercial Zoning District (CG) the use(s) may be permitted following the review and specific approval of the City Council.

You may attend the meeting in person and express your views. If you do not wish to attend, you may file any comments you desire in writing or via mail. The Planning and Zoning Board and the City Council will consider your comments.

- If you would like to speak on the item at the meeting and do not desire to attend in person, please contact the Clerk's Office at 772-871-5157 and TDD Number 772-873-6340 by 11:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting and a staff member will provide you with the required call-in information.

NOTICE: No stenographic record by a certified court reporter will be made of the foregoing meeting. Accordingly, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council, board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (F.S. 286.0105)

NOTICE: Public and Press are invited to review all the backup for meetings. Copies are available in the City Clerk's Office.

NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 772-871-5157.

AS A COURTESY TO THE PEOPLE RECORDING THE MEETING, PLEASE TURN ALL CELL PHONES TO SILENT.

Revised: 10/21/2024 9:10 AM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners will conduct public hearings on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, beginning at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the items may be heard. The public hearings will consider adoption of the following ordinances:

- 1. AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 23-09, MARTIN COMMERCE PARK, TEXT, AMENDING THE TEXT OF CHAPTER 4, CHAPTER 10 AND CHAPTER 11, OF THE MARTIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CODIFICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This is a request by Martin Commerce Park, LLC for a site-specific text amendment to the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. The subject site is known as Martin Commerce Park (formerly known as Martingale Estates). The subject property is located between Interstate 95 and SW 84th Avenue, on the south side of SW Martin Highway. The proposed text changes are to authorize extension of water and sewer services to the property, create a Freestanding Urban Service District, and place restrictions on the development of the property.

- 2. AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 23-10, MARTIN COMMERCE PARK, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE MARTIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This is a request by Martin Commerce Park, LLC to change the future land use designation from Agricultural and Agricultural-Ranchette to Industrial. The subject site is known as Martin Commerce Park (formerly known as Martingale Estates). The subject property is located between Interstate 95 and SW 84th Avenue, on the south side of SW Martin Highway. This request is in conjunction with CPA 23-09, Martin Commerce Park, a text amendment.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. The public hearings will be held in the Commission Chambers on the first floor of the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida. Written comments may be mailed to: Paul Schilling, Director, Martin County Growth Management Department, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. For further information, including copies of the original application documents or agenda items, contact Samantha Lovelady, AICP, Growth Management Department at (772) 288-5664.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL, 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

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The Stuart News

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Martin County - Growth Management

N/A

A-16-All

CPAs 23-09 and 23-10

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