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I come to you this morning dressed how you might see somebody in Publix possibly these days but not how you would expect to see them at a Board of County Commissioners Meeting. I felt the attire was appropriate because, if I wasn't here, I'd be at my parent's ranch, Just-E-Nuf Acres with them taking care of horses which is what we do at this time, every morning, seven days a week. I had to ask a boarder and longtime family friend to cover my stall duty this morning so that I could be here, so you are receiving me less the layers of dust and clothing soaked through with sweat I normally have by this hour. But don't get me wrong, I do this every day, and I love it, it can be exhausting but it is some of the most fulfilling time of my life in that I get to share with my parents as an adult. I'm at the ranch every morning and the rest of the time I'm a wife and professional accountant. I'll have to admit, it was one thing growing up and working on a ranch, as a kid, but it's a whole other thing getting to do it as a mature adult.

My family moved to Martin County in September of 1973 when I was not quite 9 months old. I had my 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday in a house on a property that abuts my parents' property in Palm City Farms where we lived while they were building the only home, I've known my parents to own. I'm a child of Palm City Farms but it wasn't until after the Town Hall meeting back in 2012, at the age of 39, and I was introduced to the PCFTAssn, that I found out that I had grown up in a 'sub-division'. You would think a person, that has a bachelor's and a master's degree, is married, and at the time actually lived in what the rest of us believed to know was a subdivision, b/c you know, I paid HOA fees and my parents never had to my knowledge, which they had not. I thought I just grew up, in the sticks, in the Country, they didn't even call it Palm City Farms when I was a kid, and it was referred to 'oh, you live all the way out there'. But I will admit since 2012, I've seen ugliness in Palm City Farms like I've never seen in any of the three HOA managed communities that I have lived in.

As I mentioned before, my parents own Just-E-Nuf Acres, a Horse Training, Boarding, and Breeding Facility, that has been operating since the mid-70's, and has hosted Trainers, Judges, Boarders, and Horses from all over the world, on their 25 acres. Actions taken against my parents over the past seven years, regarding the paper road ROW's that cross their property, primarily the one that cuts right through the Ranch property have such dire consequences, that should those actions not be halted, my parents will have to close their Equestrian business. A business that they literally run 24/7, 365 days a year. Again, this is not a complaint, just trying to share some facts about what operating an Equestrian business is all about. I'll repeat myself, my parents will have to close Just-E-Nuf Acres, you heard that right, an established 40+ year Equestrian business will CLOSE due to known safety and health issues that will be and are beyond both my parents' and even the County's

control. And they will not put their horses, their clients, nor any trail riders at risk for things that we have already seen some trail riders have shown themselves unable comprehend but were concerns that were raised by many at the April 2012 Town Hall meeting. These very trails riders had a contagious disease get picked up from somebody's horse that joined them on a trail in May of 2018 and it got transferred to a number of horses, potentially upwards of 15 horses in 5 different barns that I found out about on Facebook in June when one of the trail riders mentioned it and that their barn and property were under quarantine for 30 days and then about a month later another trail rider from the same ride shared that his horse and barn were being quarantine in July. And that's just the two trail riders that made public knowledge of it of Facebook.

I'll repeat, pleasure riders are coming to the County, who might want to go out for a ride on some date unknown in the future, to the Dump road, which is why they say they need access across the middle of my parents' property, will be effectively be shutting down a 40+ year Equestrian business that has been operating for the majority of my lifetime, for a possible pleasure ride, they may never go on...

② I've heard <sup>it</sup> personally and through others, that Trail Riders have been stating emphatically, for almost two decades that <sup>there are</sup> these 'trails' <sup>that</sup> have been in existence for the past 100 <sup>years</sup>, since <sup>Palm City Farms was</sup> they were platted in 1916, but, except for a few overzealous, righteous, overbearing landowners, and without County permits have erected fences to halt their <sup>the trail riders</sup> use of these trails. I am here to tell you that is a categorically false statement. Although I cannot comment on Palm City Farms as a whole, I can respond to the 'trails' they accuse my parents and their neighbors of having taken away from them, as if they, these very trail riders that are pushing the County to pass these Ordinances for, actually previously ever used them, and they then were recently stopped. The fact is, the Trail Riders have NEVER in my lifetime and I'm 46 going on 47 this year used the paper road ROW's on my parents or their neighbors' properties. I may not be able to say the trails haven't existed in my neighborhood for 100 years but I'm ~~getting close to being~~ able to say that haven't existed for <sup>almost</sup> 50 years...

have never in my lifetime been used for horse trails or any other type of trail. I'm not saying trail riding never occurred when I was a child, what we did was, we asked our neighbors permission to ride on their property, they granted it, we respected their property and that's how things have always been done in the subdivision that is Palm City Farms that I grew up in...

④ ??? Also, are you aware, Palm City Farms Trail Assn, will *NOT* provide the public with a 'Trail Map' unless you are a paid member? They stated this at their meeting last month when my friend asked for a map.

She was told to go to the County website (Allapattah Flats WMA, Hawk's Hammock WMA in PCF) to see what trails there were and otherwise, they kept referring to the 1916 Palm City Farms Plat b/c that's the Trail Map they are working off of, toward and for...

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I close with, ④ No Landowners, that <sup>I</sup> we know of, that these Ordinance(s) will affect, have been included in any conversation with the County unless you want to count the Town Hall held back in 2012. There seems to be an understanding that there have been agreeable compromises made between landowners and trail riders, but we are here to tell you that is an INCORRECT assumption or understanding.

And if it weren't for <sup>myself and a</sup> ~~two~~ boarders, at Just-E-Nuf Acres, for going to a PCFTA meeting this past July, ALL of the Landowners that are here today would still be in the dark, which means there are countless other landowners that have no idea that any of this is going on...

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Thank you for your time today.

Hi, My name is David Goodfriend, and I here today representing interests in land located in Palm City that my family and I own.

- Recently I was made aware by my neighbors regarding a **Proposed Town Ordinance** which will require removal of all fences and obstructions on property in the **Palm City Farms Plat**, detrimentally impacting thousands of acres and numerous landowners including ourselves.
- My purpose of speaking today is to express my concerns with such Proposed Ordinance and request ~~in~~ <sup>to</sup> the cancellation of such Proposed Ordinance and/or delay and further amendment of the Proposed Ordinance in the anticipated hearing on August 27<sup>th</sup>, as such Proposed Ordinance will irreparably harm and destroy my family's ability to operate our **30+ year old Cattle Breeding and Berry Harvesting businesses**.
- My grandmother purchased about 1000 acres in Palm City back in the 1980s with the intention to provide our family with the support and income generated from its **operation of Cattle Breeding and more recently Berry Harvesting**.
- Our property has been entirely fenced and operated over the last 3 decades providing for our family. There are no roads on our fenced property, just vacant fenced land for our business that has not been improved or ever used for equestrian trails.
- I can not understand the Board's basis for the new Proposed Law destroying my family's and many other family's decade old businesses, farms and private residential rights, including the rush to implement such law. I would urge the Board to cancel such Proposed Law, or if not, at least delay the anticipated meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup> to a much later date. Many of the affected landowners have been owners, residents and business operators for over 30 years and there is simply no Rush to destroy our businesses, residential living and property rights with a new Proposed Law in about 2 weeks from today which will be devastating to my family and many others. You guys are just killing us with this New Law.
- Specifically, our land has over a mile of frontage on Martin Highway, as well as significant frontage to 84<sup>th</sup> street, and the County has been persistent over the years to enforce the health, welfare and safety concerns to require us to maintain our fences as part of our Cattle Breeding operations preventing cattle from getting loose onto the streets with risk of potential harm to drivers and others on the road. The Cattle is also very valuable and without fences the cattle could roam outside our land and/or be easily subject to theft or injury.
- With the recent addition of our Berry Harvesting operations, we also face numerous attempts by Poachers to steal our berry harvest, and our fences have been an excellent deterrent to such Poachers who could otherwise simply pull up a truck in the middle of the night stop on Martin Hwy or 84 street run up and pick clean thousands of dollars of Berry Harvest and drive off.
- I received numerous notices from County officials over the years requiring us to promptly repair any damage to our fences to maintain our Agricultural classification and operations. Such fence repairs cost thousands of dollars and we have used our reasonable efforts to comply with such requirements for decades now.
- The fence damage is often caused by people seeking to trespass, setup tree stands to hunt, and cut holes in the fence to attempt to ride dirt bikes and horses throughout the property without regard to our valuable Cattle and Agriculture operations.

- The Proposed Ordinance requiring removal of all of my fencing is in complete contradiction with the County's requirements of fencing for my Agricultural classification to operate Cattle Breeding and Berry Harvesting, as well as, the insurance for my operation which requires such fencing.
- The effect of this Proposed Ordinance taking away our fences will destroy my family's ability to receive income and support from our land by effectively shutting down our 30+ year Cattle Breeding and Berry Harvesting operations which are not possible without such fencing. You can't have cattle running free off the property into roadways, poachers with free access to thousands of dollars of berries in the fields, and dirtbikes and horses riding freely throughout your land and business operations.
- I can not understand how the Board determines the mere individual recreational pursuits of a couple of guys who want to ride horses across the entire Palm City Farms Plat without restriction, to supersede the property rights of the Actual Landowners, Residential homeowners, Businesses and farmers existing in many cases for decades.
- As I am sure you are aware, in Palm City you do not have 8 full service Hospitals and 8 Full service Public Libraries, as your town may not need more than one to serve the needs of the community. Last night I did a simple google search of Best Horseback Riding in Palm City, FL and 8 results came up with existing and operating farms and trails providing more than sufficient trails and opportunity for any potential horse trail riding needs in Palm City, so there is clearly no lack of existing opportunity and need for additional trails to be created at this time.
- Additionally, the Proposed Ordinance's impact will be effectively a public taking of Landowner's property rights without compensation.
- The Palm City Farms Plat is over 100 years old, horses are no longer the primary means of transportation, and if any rights exist for the County in terms of future Utility development (which would be professionally installed, regulated, monitored and maintained by the County), we understand that, but to destroy families livelihoods and residential property rights for a few guys to openly trespass and ride horses (HORSES?) on other people's land, backyards and businesses makes absolutely no sense.
- The Proposed Ordinance would wreak chaos in the community, including destruction of businesses and residential living. The effect of the Ordinance is to impose an extreme version of a trail system in a community never developed or inhabited as an open trail community.
- We have had a tough few years in our business recently. Last year our berry yield was a record low, and this year China's trade negotiations are depressing demand and prices per pound for our berries. We are really struggling and hurting right now, and this new Proposed Law will likely force us out of Business.
- We have a very small family Cattle Breeding and Agriculture business on our land for over 30+ years. We are not trouble makers, and I am sure none of you even knew we existed until today, but we are going to be absolutely crushed if you guys pass this Proposed Ordinance, and it is just not fair, completely heartless and mean spirited legislation that is literally kicking us while we are down as we are looking to you our elected officials for help.
- If anything is to be legislated by this Commission, in light of the expanded growth and development in Martin County, including the Kiplinger development project adjacent to my property, we would be expecting our elected officials to help us by Strengthening our Property Rights, increasing our ability to the peaceful use and enjoyment of our land for residential homes, businesses and farm. Any new law should be seeking to help your

local voting residents by supporting our fences which have been up in many cases for decades that serve a valid residential and business purpose as well as providing health, welfare and safety to the entire community.

- I hope that the County Commissioners will all have the courage to support & strengthen the property rights of the residents, business owners and farmers*
- The residents of Martin County will hear and remember how our elected officials treat its residents, local business owners and farmers in the coming 2020 and future election cycles.
  - Thus, I respectfully again strongly request the Board to rescind any Proposed Ordinance regarding fencing and obstructions in the Palm City Farms Plat, and in any event, to at least delay the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting on such matter to a much later date. *in the Palm City Farms Plat and I am sure*

Thank you.





**GUNSTER**  
FLORIDA'S LAW FIRM FOR BUSINESS

PUBLIC  
(CASAGRANDE)

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August 2, 2019

**VIA EMAIL: samerson@martin.fl.us**

Sam Amerson, PE  
Director  
Utilities & Solid Waste Department  
3473 SE Willoughby Blvd.  
Suite 102  
Stuart, Florida 34994

**Re: Proposed request for proposed for collection of solid waste and recyclable materials**

Dear Sam:

Thank you for providing the draft, dated July 19, 2019, of the Collection of Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials RFP No. 2019-XXX. Our client, Coastal Waste and Recycling has carefully reviewed this draft and has the following comments and concerns.

Our client's issue is with the following paragraph found in Section 2.11, titled Minimum Qualifications for Proposers:

The minimum qualifications in this Section 2.11 must be satisfied by the Proposer – i.e., the corporation, partnership, or other business entity that submits a Proposal in response to this RFP. A Proposer cannot satisfy these minimum requirements by relying on the experience of the individuals who work for the Proposer.

The inclusion of this paragraph in the RFP will exclude companies, like our client, that have highly experienced and qualified people throughout their organization, that meet the minimum requirements of Section 2.11. Every qualified company can show financial ability and resources in land and equipment, but it is the team of people executing the work that are important and set companies apart.

Other jurisdictions throughout South Florida, such as the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County, the City of Delray Beach, the City of Atlantis, Coconut Creek and Loxahatchee Groves, are examples of communities that consider the experience of the entire staff as a component in awarding contracts. Disqualifying a company like Coastal Waste and Recycling without considering the cumulative years of experience of its principals and staff would be arbitrary and impractical, especially in light of the fact that it was recently awarded an exclusive ten-year contract by Martin County for the processing of all of Martin County's construction and demolition debris.

Limiting the number of companies that can qualify to respond to the RFP will have a chilling effect on the opportunity for competition and free market pricing that could benefit both Martin County and its citizens.

Finally, the concerns that this paragraph is intended to address are handled by the requirement that the company that is ultimately selected is required to post a substantial performance bond.

We would respectfully request that this paragraph be changed in the final draft of the RFP that will be presented to the Martin County Board of County Commissioners for approval, to read as follows:

The minimum qualifications in this Section 2.11 must be satisfied by the Proposer – i.e., the corporation, partnership, or other business entity that submits a Proposal in response to this RFP. A Proposer can also satisfy these minimum requirements by relying on the experience of the individuals who work for the Proposer.

Your consideration regarding this request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert S. Raynes Jr.", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert S. Raynes Jr.

cc: Sarah Woods, Esq., County Attorney (via email)  
Taryn Kryzda, County Administrator (via email)

RSR/st