

Dear UCCA Member,

We want to inform you of the results of the survey that was sent out regarding re-zoning of residential lots to commercial. The results are as follows:

192 surveys were sent
123 were returned (64%)
101 opposed rezoning of residential properties to commercial (82% of the ballots cast)
11 supported rezoning of residential properties to commercial
11 were neutral

Following the results of the survey the UCCA board will actively oppose the rezoning effort. Specifically, the UCCA board has voted that a focus of its Government Relations Committee will be to oppose residential to commercial zoning. Among its activities the Government Relations committee will carry out research, support legal challenges and serve as a conduit of island opposition to the County and State governments.

UCCA members are encouraged to make their positions known to the Lee County officials who are reviewing the pending request for rezoning on North Captiva island by the Rum Road Collective. Currently the matter is for review before the County Planner. The assigned contact is Adam Mendez and his email address is amendez@leegov.com. You can write him to express your position which will become part of the file on record with the county.

UCCA Government Relations Committee:

Richard de la Fera
Ron Glick
John Knight
Zeke McDonald
Alex Murphy

Note: For those interested in knowing the procedure if this matter goes forward, there will be an eventual hearing before a hearing officer to review the re-zoning application. Although not set yet the hearing will be in Fort Myers and will likely take place over the summer. Members of the public are permitted to attend and will have three minutes to speak to the hearing officer concerning their position on the rezoning application. Once the hearing examiner makes a recommendation on the application (up or down) the matter will go to the County Board of Commissioners for a final hearing and decision. Persons who are not on record as having appeared and spoken before the hearing examiner may not speak at the hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. Therefore, people who want to voice their position to the Board of County Commissioners will need to be physically present at two meetings in Fort Myers.