



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

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June 11, 2014

VIA EMAIL (GKresel@COJ.net)

Mr. Gary L. Kresel  
City of Jacksonville Planning and Development  
Division of Community Planning  
214 North Hogan Street, Suite 300  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Re: DACS Docket # -- 20140512-403  
Duval/Jacksonville County CP 2030  
Submission dated May 6, 2014

Dear Mr. Kresel:

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (the "Department") received the above-referenced proposed comprehensive plan amendment on May 12, 2014 and has reviewed it pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 163, Florida Statutes to address any potential adverse impacts to important state resources or facilities related to agricultural, aquacultural, or forestry resources in Florida if the proposed amendment(s) are adopted. Based on our review of the amendment(s) submitted by your county, the Department has the following comments regarding the proposed changes:

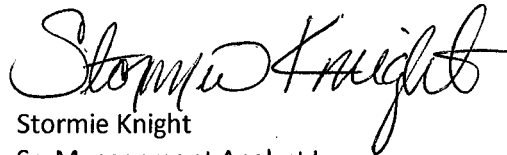
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recently proposed Duval County Comp. Plan amendments that included 2014A-001; a proposal to allow for development of additional subdivision/homes located in the northern part of the county. The Florida Forest Service manages forest property close to the site (Four Creeks State Forest) and helps manage forest property adjacent to the site (Seaton Creek Preserve). Part of the management of this forest land includes using the forest management tool of prescribed burning for resource enhancement and to reduce the potential impacts of devastating wildfires. We are concerned residences in this location could be impacted from the smoke resulting from prescribed burning and request potential homeowners be made aware of these forest management activities prior to purchasing lots/homes.

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In Addition, the Florida Forest Service assists with the management of the Seaton Creek Preserve under a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Jacksonville. The proposed amendment raises concerns with our ability to continue fulfilling our obligations to the City of Jacksonville in regards to prescribed fire and forest management activities in the Preserve. We would also encourage any subdivision constructed at the proposed site to seek "Firewise" accreditation upon build out and to include "Firewise" details in the actual development of the overall layout/design of the subdivision where possible. The Florida Forest Service is willing to discuss and support the "Firewise" accreditation with Duval County and/or the site developer. Please contact Jennifer Hart, Jacksonville Forestry District Manager, at 904-266-5001 for assistance or if you have any questions.

If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 850-410-2289.

Sincerely,



Stormie Knight  
Sr. Management Analyst I  
Office of Policy and Budget

cc: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity  
(SLPA #: Duval/Jacksonville County 14-7 ESR)