

Dear Mr. Chapdelain,

I was watching the BID meeting today when the BID voted to ask that City Staff (you) go in front of the City Commission to ask them to re-start the Comprehensive Plan Change and Zoning Text Amendments for the St. Armands CT District. The BID voted to ask you to do this today even though they had already voted to ask you to do this at the April 13 BID meeting.

I appreciated your explanation to the BID that it could take some time to get this on a City Commission agenda, especially in light of my July 25 email to you and the BID chair asking that this wait until the City Commission election in early November. That would give me the time I needed to educate residents on the latest compromises and to re-quantify resident support or opposition.

But until all that happens, on behalf of our Board of Directors and our residents by means of the results of our most recent member survey and the near-unanimous resident feedback given during the two community workshops already held about this, I would like to reiterate that the St. Armands Residents Association is firmly opposed to this process being re-started. I don't believe you will have a 4-1 supermajority Commission vote to ultimately approve this and that it would be a colossal waste of time for all parties involved.

And I'd like to remind you of, or emphasize, the following:

- The BID has asked City Staff to take this action, but they did not order you to do it and nor can they; City Staff should be able to decide on their own whether or not this is not a good idea for the City and whether or not they should bring it to the Commission, and what the best timing is to do so.
- Within the last year, our Mayor has addressed County residents of Siesta Key who were angered about the development being allowed there and he suggested that the City had protections against that sort of thing. It is my understanding that he was referring to the City's Coastal Islands Overlay District.
- Per City code: "The intent and purpose of the CT district is to serve the nonresidential needs of tourists by providing a variety of goods and services for tourists. The application of this district is restricted to St. Armand's Key." Accordingly, we oppose the addition of hotel usage, and the Coastal Islands Overlay District is the best tool to keep that usage from being added.
- The Coastal Islands Overlay District was put in place by a City Commission 20 years ago in 2002. The BID wasn't created until a few months after that. Accordingly, we feel that it was the City's original intent for the BID to operate within these parameters.
- Traffic and safety is already a problem on St. Armands. We ask how a change that could be so impactful on traffic and safety could even be considered before a study

was conducted. We would like to see this study conducted before this is ever brought to the City Commission.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, and for the work you do for our great City which I'm sure often involves juggling the competing interests of multiple stakeholders. With that in mind, I ask you to treat the requests of the residents with the same weight as you treat the requests of the BID.

Sincerely,

Chris Goglia, President
St. Armands Residents Association
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