



City of Eustis

P.O. Drawer 68 • Eustis, Florida 32727-0068 • (352) 483-5430

TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: Tom Carrino, City Manager

DATE: April 3, 2025

RE: Explanation of Ordinances for Annexation of Parcel with Alternate Key 2612525

Ordinance Number 25-06: Voluntary Annexation

Ordinance Number 25-07: Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Ordinance Number 25-08: Design District Assignment

SECOND READING

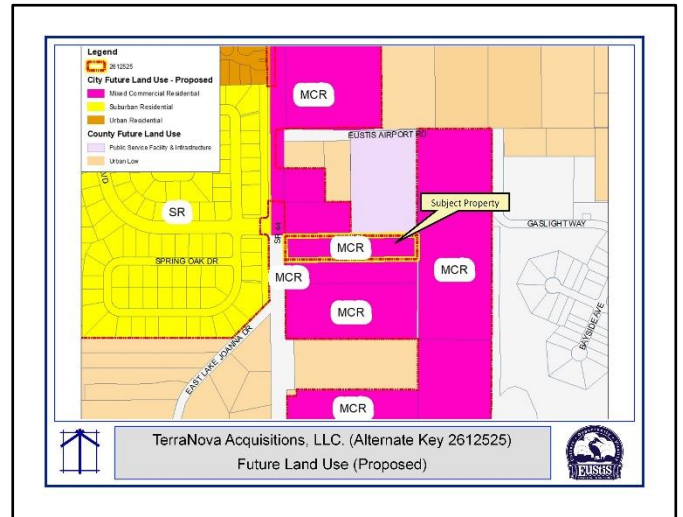
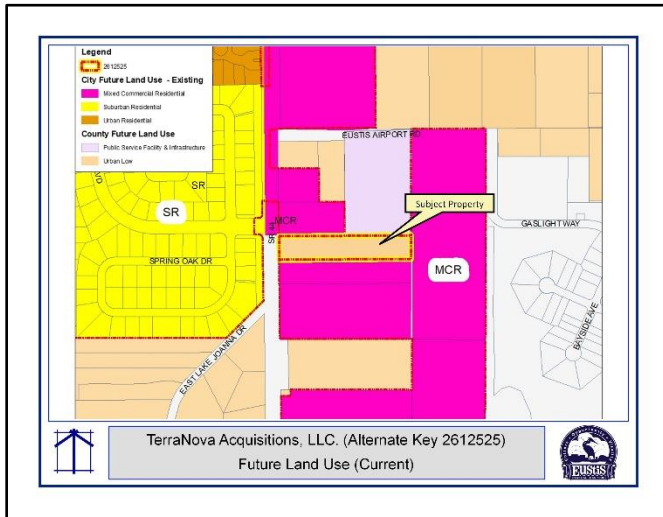
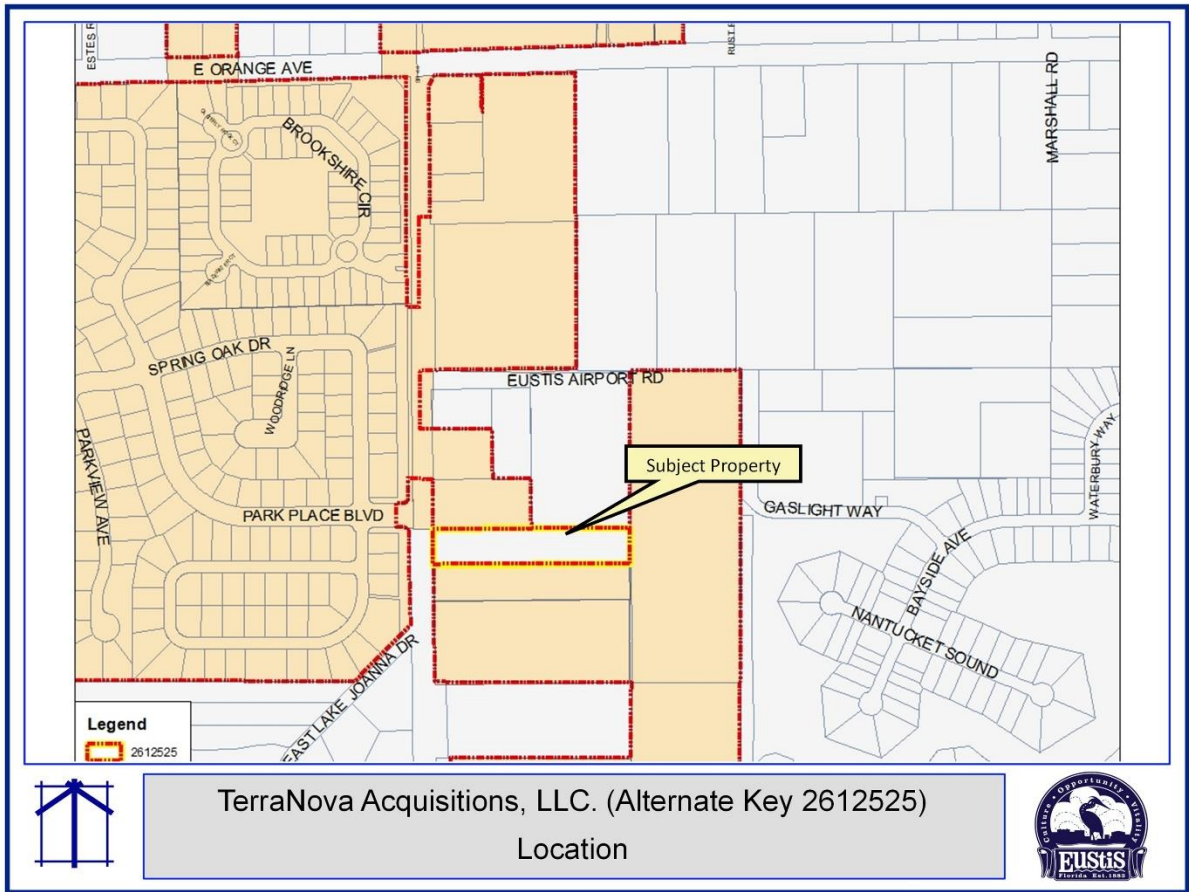
Ordinance Number 25-06: Voluntary Annexation of Parcel with Alternate Key 2162525

Introduction:

Ordinance Number 25-06 provides for the voluntary annexation of approximately 2.86 acres located on the east side of State Road 44 and across State Road 44 from its intersection with Lake Joanna Drive (Alternate Key Number 2612525). Provided the annexation of the subject property is approved, Ordinance Number 25-07 would change the Future Land Use designation from Urban Low in Lake County to Mixed Commercial Residential (MCR) in the City of Eustis, and Ordinance Number 25-08 would assign the subject property a Design District designation of Suburban Neighborhood. If Ordinance Number 25-06 is denied, then there can be no consideration of Ordinance Number 25-07 and 25-08.

Background:

1. The site contains approximately 2.86 acres and is located within the Eustis Joint Planning Area. The site is currently mostly vacant/open with one single-family structure. *Source: Lake County Property Appraisers' Office Property Record Card Data.*
2. The site is contiguous to the City on its north, south, and eastern boundaries and the western boundary across the right of way for State Road 44.
3. The site has a Lake County land use designation of Urban Low, but approval of Ordinance Number 25-07 would change the land use designation to Mixed Commercial Residential (MCR) in the City of Eustis.



Surrounding properties have the following land use designations:

| Location | Existing Use | Future Land Use | Design District |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Site | Vacant | Urban Low (Lake County) | N/A |
| North | Commercial Auto Repair | MCR | Suburban Neighborhood |

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| South | Vacant | MCR | Suburban Neighborhood |
| East | Former Airport / Vacant | MCR | Suburban Neighborhood |
| West | Single-Family Subdivision | Suburban Residential | Suburban Neighborhood |

Applicant’s Request

The applicant and property owner wish to annex the property, change the future land use to Mixed Commercial Residential (MCR), and assign a design district of Suburban Neighborhood. The applicant also owns the property to the south. That property is under development review and this property is intended to be added to that proposed development plan.

The current Lake County land use designation for the subject property is Urban Low. The Lake County land use designation allows for residential uses of up to four (4) dwelling units per one (1) net buildable acre in addition to civic, institutional, commercial, and office uses at an appropriate scale and intensity to serve this category. Limited light industrial uses may only be allowed as a conditional use.

The property owner has requested the MCR land use designation within the City of Eustis. The MCR land use provides for residential uses up to twelve (12) dwelling units per acre. The requested MCR designation permits residential and commercial uses.

Analysis of Annexation Request (Ordinance Number 25-06)

1. Resolution Number 87-34 – Joint Planning Area Agreement with Lake County:

“The City and the County agree that the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City might be appropriately served by urban services provided by the City, and might therefore be annexed into the City in accordance with State law.....The City agrees to annex property in accordance with State law and provide adequate urban services and facilities to serve those areas within the Joint Planning Area.”

The subject property is located within the Joint Planning Area. Urban services of adequate capacity are available to serve future development, consistent with the requested MCR future land use designation.

2. Florida Statutes Voluntary Annexation - Chapter 171.044(1):

“The owner or owners of real property in an unincorporated area of a county which is contiguous to a municipality and reasonably compact may petition the governing body of said municipality that said property be annexed to the municipality.”

The Joint Planning Area boundaries define the reasonably compact area where the City could provide services effectively and efficiently. The subject property lies within that planning area. It is contiguous to the City limits on the western boundary, and the owner petitioned for annexation.

3. Florida Statutes Voluntary Annexation - Chapter 171.044(2):

“...Said ordinance shall be passed after notice of the annexation has been published at least once each week for 2 consecutive weeks in some newspaper in such city or town...”

The department published notice of this annexation in the Daily Commercial in accordance with the requirements on March 10, 2025, and again on March 17, 2025.

4. Florida Statutes Voluntary Annexation - Chapter 171.044(5):

“Land shall not be annexed through voluntary annexation when such annexation results in the creation of enclaves.”

Annexation of the subject property does not create an enclave.

5. Florida Statutes Voluntary Annexation - Chapter 171.044(6):

“Not fewer than 10 days prior to publishing or posting the ordinance notice required under subsection (2), the governing body of the municipality must provide a copy of the notice, via certified mail, to the board of the county commissioners of the county wherein the municipality is located...”

The department provided notice to the Lake County Board of County Commissioners on March 1, 2025.

Analysis of Comprehensive Plan/Future Land Use Request (**Ordinance Number 25-07**)

In Accordance with Florida Statutes Chapter 163.3177.9.:

Discourage Urban Sprawl:

Primary Indicators of Sprawl:

The future land use element and any amendment to the future land use element shall discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl. The primary indicators that a plan or plan amendment does not discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl are listed below. The evaluation of the presence of these indicators shall consist of an analysis of the plan or plan amendment within the context of features and characteristics unique to each locality in order to determine whether the plan or plan amendment:

Review of Indicators

1. Low Intensity Development:

Promotes, allows, or designates for development substantial areas of the jurisdiction to develop as low-intensity, low-density, or single-use development or uses.

This indicator does not apply. The requested future land use will provide for a higher density (12 du/acre) than the county FLU (4 du/acre) allows.

2. Urban Development in Rural Areas:

Promotes, allows, or designates significant amounts of urban development to occur in rural areas at substantial distances from existing urban areas while not using undeveloped lands that are available and suitable for development.

This indicator does not apply. The subject properties are located in an urbanizing corridor between the City of Eustis, the City of Mount Dora, and unincorporated Lake County. Properties developing along the State Road 44 Corridor between US Highway 441 and State Road 44 will most likely be of a higher intensity/density as the corridor is urbanizing.

3. Strip or Isolated Development:

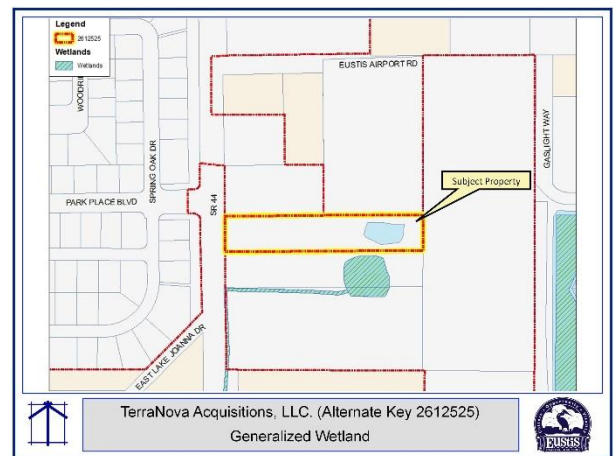
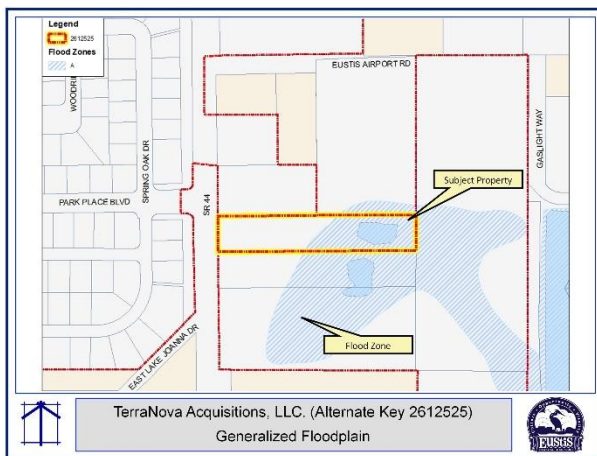
Promotes, allows, or designates urban development in radial, strip, isolated, or ribbon patterns generally emanating from existing urban developments.

This indicator does not apply. The site is within an urbanizing corridor with commercial development to the north, residential development to the west and south, and an airport to the east.

4. Natural Resources Protection:

Fails to adequately protect and conserve natural resources, such as wetlands, floodplains, native vegetation, environmentally sensitive areas, natural groundwater aquifer recharge areas, lakes, rivers, shorelines, beaches, bays, estuarine systems, and other significant natural systems.

This indicator does not apply. The subject property is in a floodplain and does contain a small non-wetland ponding area. The proposed development of this property as intended to be added to the Huddle 44 Townhome Subdivision as drainage area and will be required to be permitted through the appropriate agency processes. Permit approval is required before development may begin. The Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Regulations include standards for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands that would apply should the conditions at time of development warrant such protection.



5. Agricultural Area Protection:

Fails to adequately protect adjacent agricultural areas and activities, including silviculture, active agricultural and silvicultural activities, passive agricultural activities, and dormant, unique, and prime farmlands and soils.

This indicator does not apply. This site and adjacent areas do not support active agricultural or silvicultural activities. The site is within an existing developed and further developing area.

6. Public Facilities:

Fails to maximize use of existing public facilities and services.

This indicator does not apply. City water is available to the property. Development of this parcel will maximize the use and efficiency of City water service. City Sewer is available to the property and will be addressed via the site development process.

7. Cost Effectiveness and Efficiency of Public Facilities:

Allows for land use patterns or timing which disproportionately increase the cost in time, money, and energy of providing and maintaining facilities and services, including roads, potable water, sanitary sewer, stormwater management, law enforcement, education, health care, fire and emergency response, and general government.

This indicator does not apply. Adequate capacity is available to serve the existing and future development consistent with the requested MCR future land use designation. The City provides these services to other properties in the area, so efficiency will improve.

8. Separation of Urban and Rural:

Fails to provide a clear separation between rural and urban uses.

This indicator does not apply. No nearby properties contain active agricultural activities or uses. The surrounding area is developed or has development entitlements attached to the land. These developments have densities and intensities that are clearly suburban uses. The mixed-use character of the MCR land use designation and the Suburban Neighborhood design district are compatible with the existing development pattern.

9. Infill and Redevelopment:

Discourages or inhibits infill development or the redevelopment of existing neighborhoods and communities.

This indicator does not apply. This property is a logical extension of development for the city.

10. Functional Mix of Uses:

Fails to encourage a functional mix of uses.

This indicator does not apply. The site is surrounded by single-family development on the adjacent properties, which is consistent with permitted uses in the area. A variety of other uses are evident, including various commercial uses, Within .25 to .5 miles of the subject property.

11. Accessibility among Uses:

Results in poor accessibility among linked or related land uses.

This indicator does not apply. The Land Development Regulations include provisions to provide adequate accessibility and linkages between related uses. Development Services will ensure compliance with these standards at the time of development review.

12. Open Space:

Results in the loss of significant amounts of functional open space.

This indicator does not apply. The site does not contain functional open space and is not connected to regionally important open space.

13. Urban Sprawl:

The future land use element or plan amendment shall be determined to discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl if it incorporates a development pattern or urban form that achieves four or more of the following:

a. Direction of Growth:

Directs or locates economic growth and associated land development to geographic areas of the community in a manner that does not have an adverse impact on and protects natural resources and ecosystems.

The site is adjacent to existing urban/suburban development patterns and is a logical extension of the urban development boundary. The Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations have provisions to protect natural resources and ecosystems at time of site plan approval.

b. Efficient and Cost-Effective Services:

Promotes the efficient and cost-effective provision or extension of public infrastructure and services.

Water and Sewer service is available.

c. Walkable and Connected Communities:

Promotes walkable and connected communities and provides for compact development and a mix of uses at densities and intensities that will support a range of housing choices and a multimodal transportation system, including pedestrian, bicycle, and transit, if available.

At the time of development, the site must meet the City's Land Development Regulations relating to connection and sidewalks. State Road 44 is not City infrastructure and does not currently have a sidewalk system. Interconnectivity to existing and future uses will be a challenge.

d. Water and Energy Conservation:

Promotes the conservation of water and energy.

The development of the site must meet City development and Florida Building Code standards that will require energy and water-efficient appliances.

e. Agricultural Preservation:

Preserves agricultural areas and activities, including silviculture, and dormant, unique, and prime farmlands and soils.

Not applicable. This site and adjacent areas do not support active agricultural or silvicultural activities. The site is within an existing developed residential area.

f. Open Space:

Preserves open space and natural lands and provides for public open space and recreation needs.

This is not applicable. The site does not provide functional open space or natural areas.

g. Balance of Land Uses:

Creates a balance of land uses based upon demands of the residential population for the nonresidential needs of an area.

The proposed land use allows for both residential and commercial uses. Existing commercial development exists in close proximity to serve the residential population.

h. Urban Form Densities and Intensities:

Provides uses, densities, and intensities of use and urban form that would remediate an existing or planned development pattern in the vicinity that constitutes sprawl or if it provides for an innovative development pattern such as transit-oriented developments or new towns as defined in s. 163.3164.

Not applicable.

In Accordance with Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Element Appendix:

All applications for a Plan amendment relating to the development patterns described and supported within the Plan including, but not limited to, site specific applications for changes in land use designations, are presumed to involve a legislative function of local government which, if approved, would be by legislative act of the City and shall, therefore, be evaluated based upon the numerous generally acceptable planning, timing, compatibility, and public facility considerations detailed or inferred in the policies of the Plan. Each application for an amendment to the Map #1: 2035 Future Land Use Map by changing the land use designation assigned to a parcel of property shall also be reviewed to determine and assess any significant impacts to the policy structure on the Comprehensive Plan of the proposed

amendment including, but not limited to, the effect of the land use change on either the internal consistency or fiscal structure of the Plan.

Major Categories of Plan Policies:

This Plan amendment application review and evaluation process will be prepared and presented in a format consistent with the major categories of Plan policies as follows:

1. **General Public Facilities/Services:**

Since the Plan policies address the continuance, expansion and initiation of new government service and facility programs, including, but not limited to, capital facility construction, each application for a land use designation amendment shall include a description and evaluation of any Plan programs (such as the effect on the timing/financing of these programs) that will be affected by the amendment if approved. This analysis shall include the availability of, and actual and anticipated demand on, facilities and services serving or proposed to serve the subject property. The facilities and services required for analysis include emergency services, parks and recreation, potable water, public transportation if and when available, sanitary sewer, schools, solid waste, stormwater, and the transportation network.

a. **Emergency Services Analysis:**

Eustis emergency services already provide emergency response to other properties in the area. Any development consistent with the MCR future land use designation would not have a significant negative impact on the operations of Eustis emergency services.

b. **Parks & Recreation:**

In 2010, the City prepared a Park Inventory and Level of Service Demand and Capacity analysis as part of the Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report. The results show that a surplus of park area exists up to and beyond the City's population of 20,015. The current population is 24,500. Pursuant to comprehensive plan policy and Land Development Regulation, residential development will be required to provide on-site park amenities.

c. **Potable Water & Sanitary Sewer:**

Water and sewer are available to the subject property. Both the water and sewer systems have adequate capacity to serve the development of the property.

d. **Schools:**

The proposed change should not negatively impact schools. At the time of development application verification of capacity will be required from Lake County Schools.

e. **Solid Waste:**

The City contracts with Waste Management for the hauling of solid waste. The company already services properties in the general area of the subject property. Serving this property will increase efficiency in the delivery of services.

f. **Stormwater:**

The Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations include the level of service standards to which new development must adhere. Projects designed to meet these standards will not negatively affect the existing facilities and services.

g. Transportation Network Analysis:

This potential added residential development is considered to have no negative impacts on the existing transportation system. At this time, the adjacent transportation network (SR 44) has the capacity to serve the proposed MCR property, even at a maximum development standard, without negatively affecting the adopted level of service.

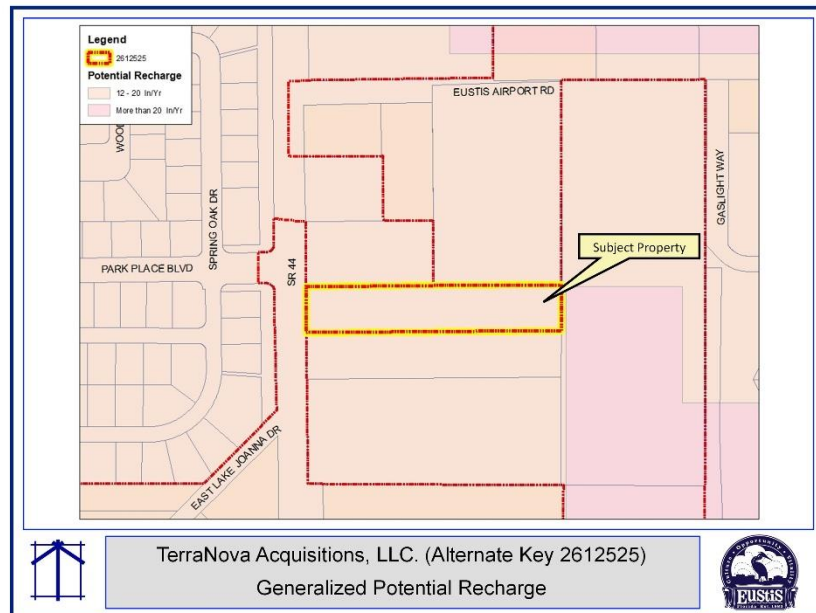
Prior to the development of the property, site plan approval amongst other approvals will be required. As part of the site plan review, a traffic study will be required to evaluate traffic impacts.

2. Natural Resources/Natural Features:

The policies of the Plan also contain general regulatory guidelines and requirements for managing growth and protecting the environment. These guidelines will be used to evaluate the overall consistency of the land use amendment with the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, each amendment will be evaluated to 1) determine the existence of groundwater recharge areas; 2) the existence of any historical or archaeological sites; 3) the location of flood zones and the demonstration that the land uses proposed in flood-prone areas are suitable to the continued natural functioning of flood plains; and 4) the suitability of the soil and topography to the development proposed.

a. Groundwater recharge areas:

The site may be within a high recharge area. A site-specific geotechnical and hydrologic study will be needed to determine the site-specific impact at the time of development. Source: Lake County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Floridian Aquifer Recharge Map.



b. Historical or archaeological sites:

The City does not have any record of Florida Master Site Files related to this property and no known historical or cultural resources exist.

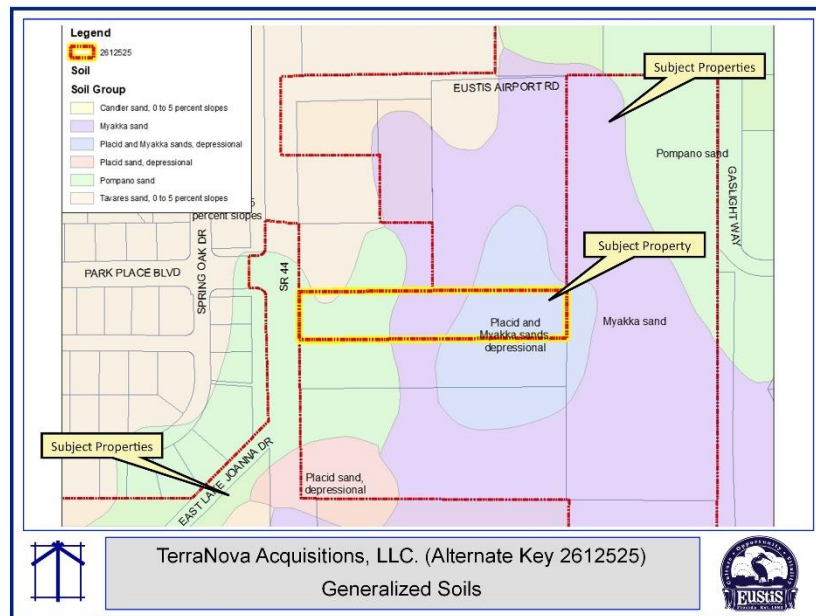
c. Flood zones:

The subject property is impacted by a 100-year flood zone area. Source - Lake County GIS - 2012 Flood Zones.

d. **Soil and topography:**

The site soils are a mix of Myakka, Placid, and Pompano sands. These sands are all typically poorly drained soils. At the development application stage, soils and geotechnical reports will be required as part of the application packages as well as for permitting for development with the applicable state agencies.

As building permit approval must be obtained before development can begin, the Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Regulations include standards for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands that would apply should conditions at the time of development warrant such protection.



3. Comprehensive Plan Review:

Additional criteria and standards are also included in the Plan that describe when, where and how development is to occur. Plan development policies will be used to evaluate the appropriateness of the compatibility of the use, intensity, location, and timing of the proposed amendment.

Existing Land Use According to the Lake County Comprehensive Plan:

“The Urban Low Density Future Land Use Category provides for a range of residential development at a maximum density of four (4) dwelling units per net buildable acre in addition to civic, institutional, commercial, and office uses at an appropriate scale and intensity to serve this category. Limited light industrial uses may only be allowed as a conditional use.

This category shall be located on or in proximity to collector or arterial roadways to minimize traffic on local streets and provide convenient access to transit facilities. Within this category any residential development in excess of 10 dwelling units shall be

required to provide a minimum 25% of the net buildable area of the entire site as common open space.

The maximum intensity in this category shall be 0.25, except for civic institutional uses which shall be 0.35. The maximum Impervious Surface Ratio shall be 0.60.”

Proposed Land Use According to the Eustis Comprehensive Plan:

Mixed Commercial / Residential (MCR)

This land use designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of commercial uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and to promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby residential uses.

General Range of Uses: This category accommodates a mix of residential, commercial, office, institutional, and schools. Public and utility services that are 5 acres or less in size are also permitted.

Maximum Density: Residential densities may not exceed 12 dwelling units per net buildable acre.

Intensity Range: up to 2.5 FAR subject to restrictions in Section 109-3 of the Land Development Regulations.

Mix Requirements: There are proportional requirements and limitations regarding the amount of residential and non-residential uses allowable in an area designated MCR. For the mixed land use category MCR, the city establishes, and shall monitor on a citywide basis, a mix of uses as follows:

Residential: 15% - 25% of total MCR acreage

Commercial/Office: 75% - 85% of total MCR acreage

The composition of mix for each proposed development will be determined on a case-by-case basis during the development review process. Specific uses permitted will be monitored by the city to ensure continuity and compatibility with adjacent land uses. Individual properties may develop residentially or commercially, provided that all applicable criteria set forth herein are met.

Special Provisions:

(1) Future amendments to designate areas as MCR shall be permitted only along arterial and collector roads and in certain neighborhoods which meet the following conditions:

- a. where the arterial road frontage is generally undeveloped, residential development may be feasible and will be encouraged;*
- b. strip commercial development shall be minimized, including actions that would extend or expand existing strip development;*
- c. the arterial road frontage contains an existing mix of viable commercial and residential uses;*

d. the clustering of viable commercial businesses within or adjacent to residential neighborhoods is determined to not have a detrimental visual or operational impact on such adjacent or nearby residential uses;

(2) Developments within the Wekiva Protection Overlay that include longleaf pine, sand hill, sand pine, and xeric oak communities shall protect these areas as dedicated open space or conservation easements, with total open space equal to at least 35% of the net buildable area.

Comparison of Lake County Development Conditions

The existing Lake County future land use designation of the property is Urban Low, which provides for a range of residential development in addition to civic, commercial and office uses at an appropriate scale and intensity to serve this category. Allowable density and intensity in Urban Low is a maximum of 4 dwelling units per acre and intensity of 0.25 to 0.35 floor area ratio, with the sum of residential density and non-residential intensity not exceeding 100%.

Residential: Lake County limits residential development to 4 du/acre while the MCR would allow 12 du/acre.

Proposed Residential Land Uses.

The City shall limit these uses adjacent to incompatible commercial or industrial lands unless sufficient mitigation, such as buffering and setbacks is provided and available, which lessens the impact to the proposed residences.

Not applicable. The area already includes a mix of uses including single-family residential and commercial. This proposed development would be adequately distanced from the commercial to the south.

Proposed Non-Residential Land Uses.

The City shall generally not permit new industrial uses to be located adjacent to existing or planned residentially designated areas.

Not applicable.

1. Transportation:

Each application for a land use designation amendment will be required to demonstrate consistency with the Transportation Element of the adopted Comprehensive Plan.

This potential added residential development is considered to have no negative impacts on the existing transportation system. At this time, the adjacent transportation network (SR 44) has the capacity to serve the proposed MCR property, even at a maximum development standard, without negatively affecting the adopted level of service.

2. Water Supply:

Each application for a land use designation amendment will be required to demonstrate that adequate water supplies and associated public facilities are (or will be) available to meet the projected growth demands.

City water service and other services are available. The City's adopted Water Supply Plan anticipated additional growth consistent with this development, so both supply and capacity are available.

In Accordance with Chapter 102-16(f), Land Development Regulations

Standards for Review:

In reviewing the application of a proposed amendment to the comprehensive plan, the local planning agency and the city commission shall consider:

a. *Consistent with Comprehensive Plan:*

Whether the proposed amendment is consistent with all expressed policies the comprehensive plan.

The proposed amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

b. *In Conflict with Land Development Regulations:*

Whether the proposed amendment is in conflict with any applicable provisions of these land development regulations.

The proposed amendment is not in conflict with the Land Development Regulations. At the time of development, there will be further review for compliance.

c. *Inconsistent with Surrounding Uses:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed amendment is inconsistent with existing and proposed land uses.

City commercial uses are located to the north within 300 feet of the property and residential uses are located in the surrounding area with varying densities. The proposed MCR does allow for greater densities than the current surrounding residential.

d. *Changed Conditions:*

Whether there have been changed conditions that justify an amendment.

The applicant wishes to annex the property into the City limits of Eustis. Assignment of a City of Eustis future land use designation is required. Upon annexation, the subject property will have a full array of municipal services, including central water. These changed conditions warrant a change in the land use designation.

e. *Demand on Public Facilities:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed amendment would result in demands on public facilities, and whether, or to the extent to which, the proposed amendment would exceed the capacity of such public facilities, infrastructure and services, including, but not limited to police, roads, sewage facilities, water supply, drainage, solid waste, parks and recreation, schools, and fire and emergency medical facilities.

City water and sewer services are available and, in close proximity to the site. Adequate capacity is available to serve future development consistent with the requested Mixed Commercial/Residential future land use designation.

Upon annexation, the City will also provide other services such as fire and police protection, library services, parks, and recreation. The City provides these services to other properties in the area, so efficiency will improve.

f. *Impact on Environment:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed amendment would result in significant impacts on the natural environment.

The site contains no apparent natural resources and is not connected to significant open space.

g. *Orderly Development Pattern:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed amendment would result in an orderly and logical development pattern, specifically identifying any negative effects on such pattern.

The site is contiguous to the City limits. The annexation would create a logical development pattern as it extends the City limits to a more natural boundary in this area (SR 44 Corridor). This would further the eventual goal of a Eustis area under one local government jurisdiction.

The requested MCR future land use designation, coupled with a Suburban Neighborhood design district designation, provides for a consistent development transect.

The requested land use provides for a transition in density and intensity from City of Eustis Suburban Residential to the west.

h. Public Interest and Intent of Regulations:

Whether the proposed amendment would be consistent with or advance the public interest, and in harmony with the purpose and intent of these land development regulations.

The purpose and intent of the Land Development Regulations is as follows:

“The general purpose of this Code is to establish procedures and standards for the development of land within the corporate boundaries and the planning area of the city, such procedures and standards being formulated in an effort to promote the public health, safety and welfare and enforce and implement the city's comprehensive plan, while permitting the orderly growth and development with the city and Eustis planning area consistent with its small-town community character and lifestyle.”

The requested designation of MCR land use will provide for orderly growth and development. This designation would advance the public interest by potentially providing additional housing or commercial options, and the application of the LDRs to future development will ensure consistency with the community character and lifestyle of the city.

i. *Other Matters:*

Any other matters that may be deemed appropriate by the local planning agency or the city commissioners, in review and consideration of the proposed amendment.

No other matters.

Applicable Policies and Codes

1. Resolution Number 87-34

Joint Planning Area Agreement with Lake County: “The City and the County agree that the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City might be appropriately served by urban services provided by the City, and might therefore be annexed into the City in accordance with State law..... The City agrees to annex property in accordance with State law and provide adequate urban services and facilities to serve those areas within the Joint Planning Area.”

2. Florida Statutes Chapter 171.044: Voluntary Annexation:

- a. “The owner or owners of real property in an unincorporated area of a county which is contiguous to a municipality and reasonably compact may petition the governing body of said municipality that said property be annexed to the municipality.”
- b. “Land shall not be annexed through voluntary annexation when such annexation results in the creation of enclaves.”

3. Comprehensive Plan – Mixed Commercial Residential (MCR): This land use designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of commercial uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and to promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby residential uses. General Range of Uses: This category accommodates a mix of residential, commercial, office, institutional, and schools. Public and utility services that are 5 acres or less in size are also permitted. Maximum Density: Residential densities may not exceed 12 dwelling units per net buildable acre. Intensity Range: up to 2.5 FAR subject to restrictions in Section 109-3 of the Land Development Regulations. Mix Requirements: There are proportional requirements and limitations regarding the amount of residential and non-residential uses allowable in an area designated MCR. For the mixed land use category MCR, the city establishes, and shall monitor on a citywide basis, a mix of uses as follows: Residential: 15% - 25% of total MCR acreage Commercial/Office: 75% - 85% of total MCR acreage. The composition of mix for each proposed development will be determined on a case-by-case basis during the development review process. Specific uses permitted will be monitored by the city to ensure continuity and compatibility with adjacent land uses. Individual properties may develop residentially or commercially, provided that all applicable criteria set forth herein are met. Special Provisions: (1) Future amendments to designate areas as MCR shall be permitted only along arterial and collector roads and in certain neighborhoods which meet the following conditions:

- a. where the arterial road frontage is generally undeveloped, residential development may be feasible and will be encouraged;
- b. strip commercial development shall be minimized, including actions that would extend or expand existing strip development;
- c. the arterial road frontage contains an existing mix of viable commercial and residential uses;
- d. the clustering of viable commercial businesses within or adjacent to residential neighborhoods is determined to not have a detrimental visual or operational impact on such adjacent or nearby residential uses;

(2) Developments within the Wekiva Protection Overlay that include longleaf pine, sand hill, sand pine, and xeric oak communities shall protect these areas as dedicated open space or conservation easements, with total open space equal to at least 35% of the net buildable area.

4. Land Development Regulations Section 109-5.5(b)(1): The Suburban Neighborhood Design District has predominately residential uses with some neighborhood scale commercial services with interconnected trails, bikeways and walkways with a street framework comprised of a range of blocks permitted throughout the neighborhoods.

5. Land Development Regulations Section 109-3 (Table 1) and Section 109-2.6: The MCR land use has a maximum density of 12 units to one acre. The MCR designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of commercial and residential uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby land uses, and provide for mixed-use development.

Analysis of Design District Request (**Ordinance Number 25-08**):

Form-Based Code:

The City's Land Development Regulations are a form-based code. Design districts are unique to form-based codes. Lake County still uses traditional Euclidean zoning, so there are no design districts for parcels in unincorporated Lake County. When a parcel annexes into the City of Eustis, the City must assign a consistent design district that follows the urban, suburban and rural transect

1. *Standards for Review:*

The Land Development Regulations include the following standards for review of an amendment to the Design District Map. In approving a change in the designation, the City Commission shall consider: Whether the amendment is in conflict with any applicable provisions of the Code.

a. *Section 102-17(a) "...Section 109-3 Design Districts:*

identifies the definition, structure, and form of each design district. The assignment of design district must follow the district pattern and intent."

The requested amendment assigns a newly annexed parcel a designation that meets the district pattern and intent (Suburban Neighborhood). The Suburban development pattern and intent, and the Suburban Neighborhood definition, structure and form description are stated below. The assignment of a Suburban Neighborhood design district designation is appropriate due to the established and proposed development patterns in the area.

b. *Sec. 109-3.4. Suburban development pattern intent statements:*

Intent. Suburban development pattern...relies primarily on a pattern of residential development that provides the majority of property owners with substantial yards on their own property. The street layout, comprised of streets with fewer vehicular connections, helps to reduce cut-through traffic and establishes distinct boundaries for residential communities/subdivisions. Each land use provides for pedestrian and bicycle connections.

Design districts – Suburban Neighborhood

a. Definition. Predominately residential uses with some neighborhood-scale commercial services.

b. Structure. Interconnected trails, bikeways, and walkways with a street framework comprised of a range of blocks permitted throughout the neighborhoods.

c. Form. Mix of detached residential uses with some neighborhood-supporting retail, parks and civic spaces as focal points in the neighborhoods.

The Suburban development patterns statement above indicates that residential uses are primarily located on streets with fewer vehicle connections. A Suburban Neighborhood designation follows the district pattern and intent outlined in the

Land Development Regulations and is consistent with the existing transect in the area.

c. **Section 102-17(a)**

The following guidelines must be followed when proposing the reassignment of design district:

Compatible intensities should face across streets. Changes in design districts should occur along rear alleys or lanes or along conservation edges.

Reassignment is not being proposed. A Eustis design district designation must be assigned to annexed property. The proposed design district is compatible with the surrounding design districts.

d. **Consistent with Comprehensive Plan:**

Whether the proposed amendment is consistent with all elements of the comprehensive plan.

The requested amendment is consistent with the Future Land Use element (including Policy FLU 1.2.4, Development Patterns and FLU 1.3.2. Maintain Residential Compatibility), as well as all other elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

e. **Consistent with Surrounding Uses:**

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed design district is consistent with existing and proposed land uses.

The Suburban Neighborhood definition, structure and form are compatible with the existing uses and any proposed uses permitted under the MCR future land use designation.

f. **Changed Conditions:**

Whether there have been changed conditions that justify amending the design district.

The subject property is proposed for annexation, and a design district assignment is necessary. The conditions have changed from land located in unincorporated Lake County without central services to a site within the City of Eustis with municipal services.

g. **Public Facilities.**

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed redistricting would result in demands on public facilities, and whether, or to the extent to which, the proposed change would exceed the capacity of such public facilities, including, but not limited to police, roads, sewage facilities, water supply, drainage, solid waste, parks and recreation, schools, and fire and emergency medical facilities.

A redistricting is not proposed. Assigning a design district to an annexation property will not change the demand impact on public facilities. The Future Land Use designation controls the density and intensity permitted on the site, so the Design District map amendment would not result in impacts beyond that already anticipated. Also, see the analysis of public facilities in the above sections of this report.

h. *Impact on Environment:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the redistricting would result in significant impacts on the natural environment.

The proposed Design District designation for this property does not change the development potential of the parcel. Design Districts control the form and function of any development that does occur. The Future Land Use designation controls the density, intensity and minimum open space permitted on the site, so the Design District amendment would not result in additional impacts on the natural environment. As building permit approval must be obtained before development can begin, the Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Regulations include standards for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands that would apply should conditions at the time of development warrant such protection.

i. *Property Values:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed redistricting would affect the property values in the area.

Redistricting is not being proposed. A Eustis design district designation must be assigned to the annexed property. This request should not affect property values, because the proposed Design District designation is consistent with the surrounding development patterns and design districts.

j. *Orderly Development Pattern:*

Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed redistricting would result in an orderly and logical development pattern.

The request is the assignment of a design district to an annexation parcel, not redistricting. However, the proposed Design District designation is consistent with the suburban development pattern identified in Section 109-5.5 of the Land Development Regulations. Assignment of the requested designation will result in a more orderly and logical development pattern; making the designation consistent with the surrounding area designations and established development patterns.

k. *Public Interest and Intent of Regulations:*

Whether the proposed redistricting would be in conflict with the public interest, and in harmony with the purpose and intent of these regulations.

The request is the assignment of a design district to an annexation parcel, not redistricting. The proposed Design District is not in conflict with the public interest and reflects the purpose and intent of the regulations.

l. *Other Matters:*

Any other matters that may be deemed appropriate by the city commission, in review and consideration of the proposed redistricting.

The request is the assignment of a design district to an annexation parcel, not redistricting. The City's Land Development Regulations are a form-based code. The Design District designations define the development form, but not the types of land use, densities, intensities, or required open space. The districts, therefore, must be consistent and follow the urban, suburban, and rural transects. This request assigns a Suburban Neighborhood design district designation to an annexation parcel, which is consistent with the existing transect.

Applicable Policies and Codes

6. Resolution Number 87-34

Joint Planning Area Agreement with Lake County: “The City and the County agree that the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City might be appropriately served by urban services provided by the City, and might therefore be annexed into the City in accordance with State law..... The City agrees to annex property in accordance with State law and provide adequate urban services and facilities to serve those areas within the Joint Planning Area.”

7. Florida Statutes Chapter 171.044: Voluntary Annexation:

- c. “The owner or owners of real property in an unincorporated area of a county which is contiguous to a municipality and reasonably compact may petition the governing body of said municipality that said property be annexed to the municipality.”
- d. “Land shall not be annexed through voluntary annexation when such annexation results in the creation of enclaves.”

8. Comprehensive Plan – Mixed Commercial Residential (MCR): This land use designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of commercial uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and to promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby residential uses. General Range of Uses: This category accommodates a mix of residential, commercial, office, institutional, and schools. Public and utility services that are 5 acres or less in size are also permitted. Maximum Density: Residential densities may not exceed 12 dwelling units per net buildable acre. Intensity Range: up to 2.5 FAR subject to restrictions in Section 109-3 of the Land Development Regulations. Mix Requirements: There are proportional requirements and limitations regarding the amount of residential and non-residential uses allowable in an area designated MCR. For the mixed land use category MCR, the city establishes, and shall monitor on a citywide basis, a mix of uses as follows: Residential: 15% - 25% of total MCR acreage Commercial/Office: 75% - 85% of total MCR acreage. The composition of mix for each proposed development will be determined on a case-by-case basis during the development review process. Specific uses permitted will be monitored by the city to ensure continuity and compatibility with adjacent land uses. Individual properties may develop residentially or commercially, provided that all applicable criteria set forth herein are met. Special Provisions: (1) Future amendments to designate areas as MCR shall be permitted only along arterial and collector roads and in certain neighborhoods which meet the following conditions:

- a. where the arterial road frontage is generally undeveloped, residential development may be feasible and will be encouraged;
- b. strip commercial development shall be minimized, including actions that would extend or expand existing strip development;
- c. the arterial road frontage contains an existing mix of viable commercial and residential uses;
- d. the clustering of viable commercial businesses within or adjacent to residential neighborhoods is determined to not have a detrimental visual or operational impact on such adjacent or nearby residential uses;

(2) Developments within the Wekiva Protection Overlay that include longleaf pine, sand hill, sand pine, and xeric oak communities shall protect these areas as dedicated open space or conservation easements, with total open space equal to at least 35% of the net buildable area.

9. Land Development Regulations Section 109-5.5(b)(1): The Suburban Neighborhood Design District has predominately residential uses with some neighborhood scale commercial services with interconnected trails, bikeways and walkways with a street framework comprised of a range of blocks permitted throughout the neighborhoods.

10. Land Development Regulations Section 109-3 (Table 1) and Section 109-2.6: The MCR land use has a maximum density of 12 units to one acre. The MCR designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of commercial and residential uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby land uses, and provide for mixed-use development.

Recommended Action:

Development Services has found the proposed annexation, Future Land Use, and Design District designation consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and with the surrounding and adjacent land uses; therefore, it recommends approval of Ordinance Numbers 25-06, 25-07, and 25-08.

Policy Implications:

None

Alternatives:

1. Approve Ordinance Numbers 25-06 (Annexation), 25-07 (Comp. Plan Amendment), and/or 23-04 (Design District Designation).
2. Deny Ordinance Numbers 25-06, 25-07, and 25-08.

Budget/Staff Impact:

There would be no direct costs to the City beyond the normal City services. There would be no additional staff time beyond the normal review process.

Prepared By:

Jeff Richardson, AICP, Deputy Development Services Director

Reviewed By:

Mike Lane, AICP, Development Services Director