



City of Eustis

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

TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: Tom Carrino, City Manager

DATE: March 6, 2025

RE: **FIRST READING**

Ordinance Number 25-02: Comprehensive Plan Amendment

2024-CPLUS-12 – CHARLES W. LEONARD III – FUTURE LAND USE
ASSIGNMENT FOR PARCEL WITH ALTERNATE KEY 1658641

Introduction:

Ordinance Number 25-02 provides for the assignment of a future land use associated with approximately 1.33 acres of land located at 4017 East Orange Avenue. (Alternate Key Number 1658641). Ordinance Number 25-02 would change the future land use designation from Rural Residential (RR) to Suburban Residential (SR).

Background:

1. The site contains approximately 1.33 acres and is located within the City of Eustis – just east of Estes Road on East Orange Avenue. The is a portion of the Melody Farms subdivision dating back to 1976. *Source: Lake County Property Appraisers' Office Property Record Card Data.*
2. The site has a land use designation of Rural Residential, but approval of Ordinance Number 25-02 would change the land use designation to Suburban Residential (SR).
3. The applicant is seeking the amendment to accommodate a pre-existing impervious surface ratio (ISR) which exceeds the permitted 20 percent maximum ISR in the Rural Residential designation. The proposed Suburban Residential land use allows for a maximum ISR of 40 percent.
4. The dimensionial layout of the property constrains any potential redevelopment for a higher single-family residential unit count.
5. Design District – Suburban Neighborhodo (SN).



Surrounding properties have the following land use designations:

Location	Existing Use	Future Land Use	Design District
Site	Single-Family	Rural Residential	Suburban Neighborhood
North	Single-Family	Urban Low (Lake County)	N/A
South	Single-Family	Urban Residential	Suburban Neighborhood
East	Single-Family	Urban Low (Lake County)	N/A
West	Single-Family	Rural Residential	Suburban Neighborhood

Applicant's Request

The applicant and property owner, Charles W. Leonard III, wishes to, change the future land use to Suburban Residential (SR).

The current future land use designation for the subject property is Rural Residential (RR). The land use designation allows for residential uses of up to 1 dwelling unit per net buildable acre.



The SR future land use provides for residential uses up to five (5) dwelling units per acre.

Analysis of Comprehensive Plan/Future Land Use Request **(2024-CPLUS-12) Ordinance Number 25-02)**

In accordance with the 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 (5 du/acre) and the SR designation allows the infill of development types similar to the existing patterns at similar densities.

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.

The proposed amendment would serve as a transition from a rural to a suburban development pattern within an area characterized by a mixture of Rural, Suburban and Urban Residential land uses.

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 proposed amendment would be in keeping with the general development pattern of the surrounding area, which is characterized by a mixture of existing land uses, including both Urban and Suburban Residential.

3. 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 not subject to floodplain impact, and does not contain wetland areas. The subject property was originally platted in the 1970s as part of the Melody Farms subdivision. The Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Regulations include standards for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands that would apply, should the conditions at the time of any redevelopment warrant such protection.

4. Agricultural Area Protection:

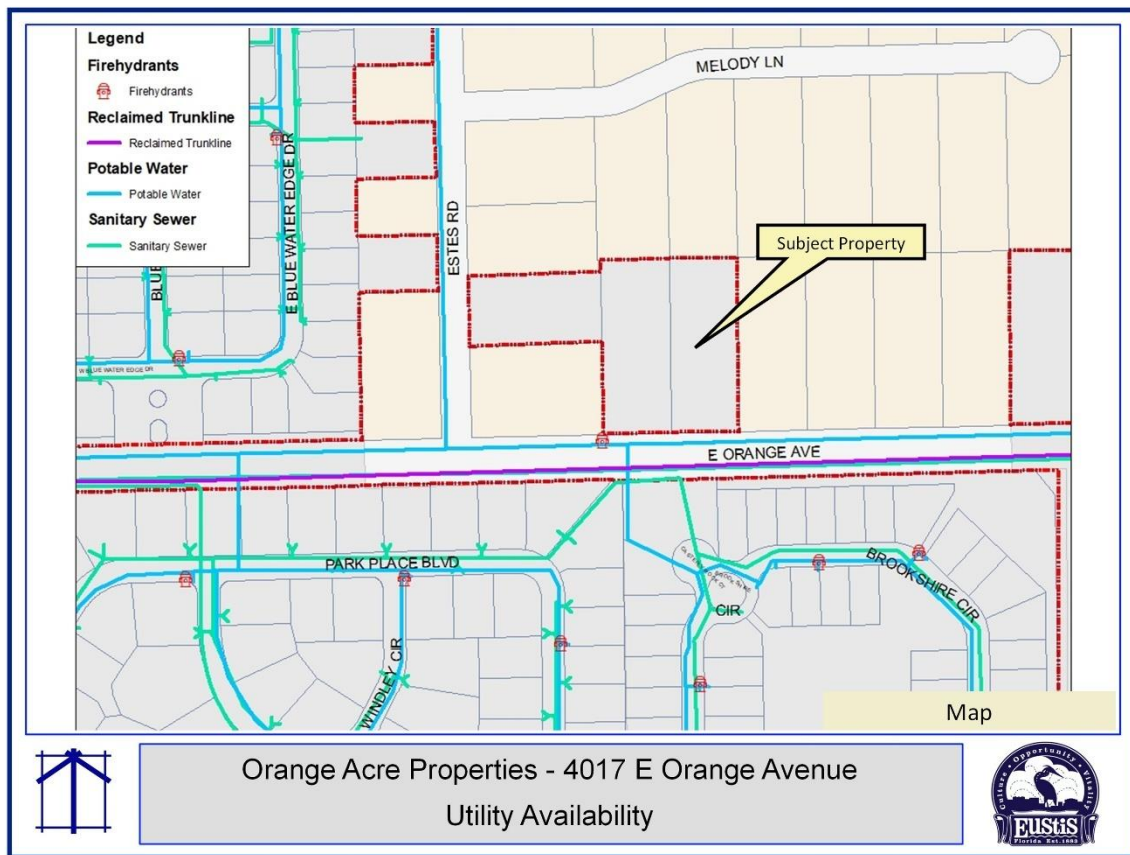
Fails to adequately protect adjacent agricultural areas and activities, including silviculture, active agricultural and silvicultural activities, passive agricultural activities, and dormant, unique, and prime farmlands and soils.

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.

5. Public Facilities:

Fails to maximize the use of existing public facilities and services.

This indicator does not apply. City water will be available to serve the property. The current development of the property maximizes the use and efficiency of the City water services. The property utilizes a septic system.



6. 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 development.

7. 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 use. The surrounding area is developed or has development entitlements attached to the land. These developments have densities and intensities that are clearly suburban uses.

8. Infill and Redevelopment:

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

This indicator does not apply. This property is developed and part of an existing neighborhood that is substantially developed.

9. 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.

10. 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 access and linkage between related uses. City Departments will ensure compliance with these standards at the time of development review.

11. 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 significant open space. The subject property is an existing residential lot.

12. 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 infill of the urban development boundary. The Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations have provisions to protect natural resources and ecosystems at the 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 service is currently available and currently services the site. No changes to the use of or need for additional public infrastructure is anticipated.

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.

This indicator does not apply. The site is currently developed.

d. Water and Energy Conservation:

Promotes the conservation of water and energy.

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

e. Agricultural Preservation:

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

This is 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 on a regional basis.

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 is consistent with the surrounding area of the site and the proposed land use amendment would not encourage commercial development.

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 Suburban Residential (SR) 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 approximately 24,500. Pursuant to Comprehensive Plan policies and Land Development Regulations, residential development will be required to provide on-site park amenities.

c. Potable Water & Sanitary Sewer:

Water and sewer services the subject property. Both the water and sewer systems will have adequate capacity to serve 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 the Lake County School Board.

e. Solid Waste:

The City contracts with Waste Management for the hauling of solid waste. The company already services this property and properties in the general area of the subject property.

f. Stormwater:

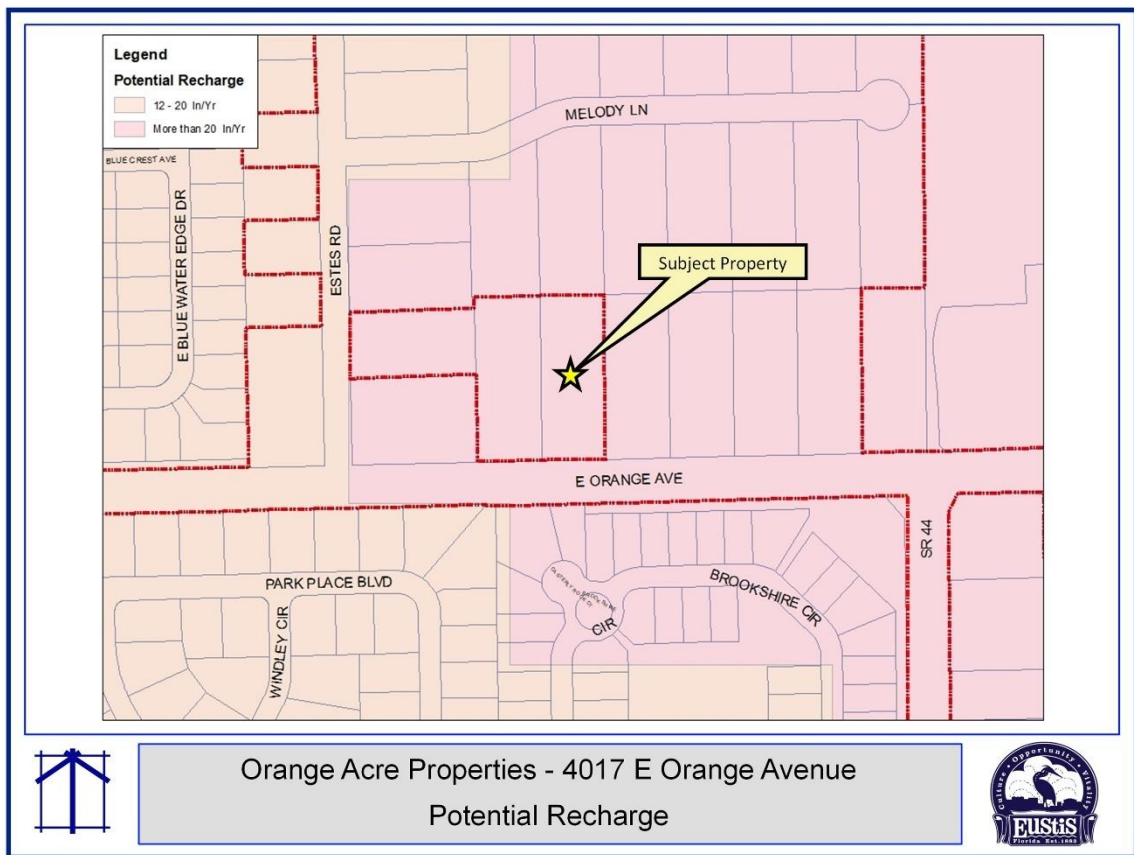
The Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations include the level of service standards to which new development must adhere. Projects designed to meet these standards will not negatively affect the existing facilities and services.

Transportation Network Analysis:

The property is currently developed. The applicant does not have the intention of redeveloping the property for additional residential densities. The proposed land use change would have negligible 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 recharge area, and a site-specific geotechnical and hydrologic study would be needed to determine the site-specific impact. 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 not impacted by a 100-year flood zone area. Source - Lake County GIS - 2012 Flood Zones.

d. Soil and topography:

The underlying soils will not affect the existing residential development. The proposed use is to maintain the property as one single-family residence.

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 Eustis Comprehensive Plan:

The existing future land use designation of the property is Rural Residential, which provides for residential uses at up to 1 dwelling unit per acre as well as supporting commercial and institutional uses.

Proposed Land Use According to the Eustis Comprehensive Plan:

The Suburban Residential (SR) land use designation is provided to accommodate the majority of residential development within the City. The general range of uses include: a mix of single family detached, patio home, and townhouse dwellings in a suburban atmosphere and may also include ACLF, parks and recreation facilities, and schools. Apartments may be permitted through the PUD process. Public and utility services and facilities that are 2 acres or less in size are also permitted. Suburban Residential lands may be developed up to a maximum density of 5 dwelling units per net buildable acre.

Comparison of Existing Conditions

The property immediately adjacent to the west is Rural Residential (RR) with unincorporated areas designated Urban Low (LW) with a maximum density of 4 dwelling units per net buildable acre to the east and north.

The land use designations of residential properties within the City of Eustis in the surrounding area are generally Suburban Residential (SR) with a maximum density of 5 dwelling units per acre (du/ac); as well as, Urban Residential (UR) with a density of 12 dwelling units per acre immediately adjacent across East Orange Avenue to the south.

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.

This area is predominantly residential in nature and the proposed use of the land will continue to be residential.

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.

The use of the land is already residential in nature and was previously platted; the increase in traffic should be negligible.

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 to meet the needs of the existing residential development and any subsequent redevelopment.

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 in 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 redevelopment, 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.

The existing land uses in the immediate area are residential and the proposed use of the land is continued residential. The proposed land use would be compatible with the existing Suburban and Urban Residential land uses to the south.

d. *Changed Conditions:*

Whether there have been changed conditions that justify an amendment.

The applicant purchased the property with an impervious surface ratio (ISR) that exceeds the 20 percent allowed in the Rural Residential land use designation. The applicant wishes to continue use of the property for single-family residential, with an ISR which exceeds the maximum for Rural Residential. The Suburban Residential land use change would allow the applicant to continue use of the property with a higher ISR. 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 will be available to serve future development consistent with the requested Suburban Residential future land use designation.

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.

f. *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 development patterns already exist in the area, with existing Suburban Residential land uses immediately adjacent to the subject site to the south.

g. *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 SR land use will provide for orderly growth and development. This designation would advance the public interest by alleviating the ISR non-conformity, and the land use would serve as a transition between other surrounding suburban and rural land uses and more urban development to the south.

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. Comprehensive Plan – Suburban Residential (SR)

This designation is provided to accommodate the majority of residential development within the City.

General Range of Uses: This designation is intended to provide for a mix of single-family detached, patio home, and townhouse dwellings in a suburban atmosphere and may also include ACLF, parks and recreation facilities, and schools. Apartments may be permitted through the PUD process. Public and utility services and facilities that are 2 acres or less in size are also permitted.

Maximum Density/Intensity: Suburban Residential lands may be developed up to a maximum density of 5 dwelling units per net buildable acre. The maximum density may be exceeded through an affordable housing density bonus as provided in the Special Provisions below.

Special Provisions:

- (1) Density bonuses are permitted for the provision of affordable housing, including opportunities for a bonus increase between 5-15 percent in density in the Suburban Residential (SR) classification where at least 20 percent of the dwelling units are affordable to families having incomes less than 80 percent of the Orlando Metropolitan Statistical Area median, or where at least 50 percent of the dwelling units are affordable to families having incomes less than 120 percent of the Orlando Metropolitan Statistical Area median. Affordability is based on a housing cost-to-family income factor of 30 percent. A density bonus may also be allowed for energy conservation or green certification as provided for in the LDRs. The combined density bonus for affordable housing and energy conservation/green certification is limited to a total increase of 15%.
 - (2) Permit the placement of residential units manufactured off site which otherwise meet all applicable federal and state regulations and standards, provided that:
 - a. all such housing is attached to foundations as in the case of conventional site-built construction; and
 - b. all such housing otherwise meets applicable lot, yard, and related residential classification as set forth in the Land Development Regulations.
 - (3) 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.
2. 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.
 3. Land Development Regulations Section 109-3 (Table 1) and Section 109-2.6: Suburban Residential land use has a maximum density of 5 units to one acre. The Suburban Residential designation is intended to regulate the character and scale of allowed uses so as to minimize their impacts on adjacent roadways and promote their compatibility with adjacent or nearby land uses.

Recommended Action:

Development Services recommends approval of Ordinance 25-02.

Policy Implications:

None

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:

Kyle Wilkes, Senior Planner

Reviewed By:

Mike Lane, AICP, Development Services Director

Jeff Richardson, AICP, Deputy Development Services Director