



Board of County Commissioners

P.O. Box 7800 • 315 W. Main St., Suite 316 • Tavares, FL 32778-7800

November 30, 2021

The Honorable Martha MacFarlane
Town of Howey-in-the-Hills
Post Office Box 128
Howey-in-the-Hills, FL 34737

Dear Mayor MacFarlane:

The central Florida region has been experiencing tremendous growth over the last several years and as a result, Lake County and its cities have been receiving a growing number of requests for development approvals and annexations. Annexations and development in some areas of the county have created concerns for residents who wish to preserve their rural lifestyle.

The Interlocal Service Boundary Agreements (ISBA) between the County and cities governs annexation for defined areas. In some cases, County-designated Rural Protection Areas (RPA) fall within the boundaries of the ISBAs. In order to preserve the rural qualities of the RPAs, the County would like to amend the ISBAs to remove the RPAs from the boundaries. If removing the RPAs from the current ISBAs is not amenable, the County and the cities could collaborate to develop criteria for development in the RPAs. Criteria to be considered could include enhanced landscape buffers, non-linear roads within the development and minimum levels of open green space. The criteria will also be part of the joint planning discussions we have scheduled for after the first of the year.

I look forward to meeting with you to discuss the possibility of amending the current ISBA to maintain the rural quality of life for our current residents while welcoming new residents to Lake County.

Sincerely,

Sean M. Parks, Chairman
Lake County Board of County Commissioners

SMP/nb

P 352-343-9850 • F 352-343-9495
Board of County Commissioners • www.lakecountyfl.gov