



## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Ruane  
District One

Cecil L. Pendergrass  
District Two

Ray Sandelli  
District Three

Brian Hamman  
District Four

Mike Greenwell  
District Five

Dave Harner, II  
County Manager

Richard Wm. Wesch  
County Attorney

Donna Marie Collins  
County Hearing  
Examiner

September 26, 2023

VIA EMAIL ONLY

The Honorable Kevin Anderson  
Mayor of Fort Myers and Councilmembers

The Honorable John Gunter  
Mayor of Cape Coral and Councilmembers

The Honorable Richard Johnson  
Mayor of Sanibel and Councilmembers

The Honorable Dan Allers  
Mayor of Fort Myers Beach and Councilmembers

The Honorable Jon McLain  
Mayor of Estero and Councilmembers

The Honorable Rick Steinmeyer  
Mayor of Bonita Springs and Councilmembers

Re: Charter Review-Proposed Annexation Amendment

Dear Mayors and Members of the City Council:

As you are aware, the Charter Review Commission recently discussed a proposed amendment regarding voluntary annexations. This drafted amendment was a result of my conversations with staff in an effort to address some of the concerns and ultimately negative effects with voluntary annexations out of the unincorporated areas and into City boundaries.

Some may recall that in August of last year, the Board of County Commissioners discussed this very issue at its August 2 Board meeting pertaining to an annexed parcel located at the Northeast Corner of Treeline Avenue and Daniels Parkway. As a result of that discussion the Board authorized sending a letter clarifying the County's position, which included safety concerns expressed by the County's Department of Transportation, along with utility services that the County was being asked to provide to the parcel that was now located within the City's municipal boundaries. During that Board meeting, it was expressed by County Management that this act of annexation should be of utmost concern to the County and highly prioritized going forward.

In presenting this recent proposal to the Charter Review committee, it was and remains my full intent to create an avenue for more dialogue between the six municipalities and the County. At times, we are contacted by concerned citizens within City boundaries, as was the case with the Daniels/Treeline parcel. This is an opportunity for local governments to have that open discussion for better planning and preserving our quality of life in our cities and County. I wholeheartedly support the City's Home Rule and ask that in turn you honor our County Home Rule.

I trust this writing makes clear my sincere intent for the benefit of the Cities and County working together to address voluntary annexation and in the best interests of all involved.

Respectfully,

Cecil L. Pendergrass  
Lee Board of County Commissioners, District 2

September 26, 2023

Page 2 of 2

RE: Charter Review – Proposed Annexation Amendment

cc via email only:

Lee Board of County Commissioners  
City of Fort Myers Councilmembers  
City of Cape Coral Councilmembers  
City of Sanibel Councilmembers  
Town of Fort Myers Beach Councilmembers  
Village of Estero Councilmembers  
City of Bonita Springs Councilmembers  
Marty Lawing, City Manager  
Michael Ilczyszyn, City Manager  
Dana Souza, City Manager  
Andy Hyatt, Town Manager  
Steven Sarkozy, Village Manager  
Arleen Hunter, City Manager  
Dave Harner, County Manager  
Richard Wm. Wesch, County Attorney