

SMALL GROUP ROUNDTABLE MEETING NOTES
Upper Captiva Planning Panel
March 17, 2007; 1pm

Roads

Considerations

- Dune Access
- Docks
- Existing system work
- Signage and Design standards (with respect to roads)
- Soil cement
- Contractor

Enforcement Issues

- Speed limits on the roads
- Underage golf cart driving
- Gas powered vehicles

Island Access

Strategies

- Need for an owner shared access point—community ownership of Barnacle Phil's
- Automobile parking -- mainland
- Community Boat Ramp / North Captiva Dunes Lot
- Other canal lots / ferry dockage
- Commuter airline to Page Field

Infrastructure

Waste management strategies

- Recycling available island-wide
- Control battery / hazardous materials for aquifer / water quality / other environmental purposes
- Island wide incinerator ** (mentioned several times)
- Garbage disposal paid for by county

Water supply / quality

- Salt water intrusion a risk; drawing down our aquifer
- Mainland/other communities have an effect on aquifer
- Restrict swimming pools (? Not sure about the impact on supply)
- Desalinization
- Other comments
 - controlling density will control problems (require 2 lots to build rather than one).
 - water quality is responsibility of individual property owner

Waste water

- Group septic / community water treatment / possible island-wide sewer plant
- ...some disagreement on this issue—some want wells & septic tanks to be kept ‘as is’

Architectural Design Standards

Strategies

- Height is a critical element
- No cube architecture
- Limit multi-lot building
- Restrict outside lighting / spots aimed at neighbors
- Enforce breakaway ground floor codes
- Create dis-incentives for duplexes
- Incentives for multiple lots / one building
- Evacuation provisions for 3rd level living space (fire escapes)
- Encourage native landscaping and relocation of viable vegetation instead of clearing
- Enforce codes
- Tax break on unbuildable lots

Environment

Strategies

- Phased removal of pepper
- Mulching yard waste (or bury and burn)
- Restriction of camping on state land and open fires
- Encourage xeriscaping
- Restrict massive clearing (size of trees may be indicator to trigger action)
- Define & clarify beach pollution
- Rental agents take ownership of clearing up after renters
- Signage (e.g., Help Us Care for Our Island)
- Incentives for removal of exotic plants (need for education / brochures?)
- Dune walkovers and dune protection
- House calls for education (at point that it matters)
- Links to websites & UCCA newsletters
- List of suppliers that are environmentally sound/conscious

Problems affecting environment

- Clear cutting of lots
- Rats
- Lack of enforcement for existing codes **
- Increased pollutants ==Sea grass dying off==Damage water quality and nutrients Urbanization of lots
- Raccoons impact on gopher tortoises
- Feral cats impact on wildlife
- Exotic vegetation (esp. Brazilian pepper & non indigenous plants)
- Septic tanks (impact on environment)

- Illegal dumping and abandoned carts, cars, boats
- Garbage on beach (broken bottles, litter, etc.)

Public Safety / Enforcement

Enforcing agencies

- Code Enforcement (property, structures, dumping)
- Department of Protection (Fish and Wildlife) (beaches, state lands)
- Sheriff (jurisdiction outside state lands)
- Health Department (restaurants & wells)
- Fire Department (life and safety codes ??)

Issues

- Codes are adequate (enforce what is there already)
- Exterior means of ingress / egress for 2nd and 3rd levels of structure. Not now needed by state code (?). No longer are sprinklers needed on new structures. (Insurance rates will go up).
- Education (residents need to know what the codes are)
- Fire district: assist Lee County with rides to
- Open burning: UCFD is active enforcer
- LC Sheriff's office: Fire District responds as a courtesy (e.g., noise complaints)
- Golf cart safety and kids driving*** (important issue)

Strategies

- Designated burn area to get rid of yard debris (?) –unlikely that state lands will allow burning for this purpose, however it may be worth a try
- UCFD will try to set up burn area @ end of airstrip for yard debris (will take airstrip owner cooperation).
- Hurricanes—lack of knowledge is lack of information. UCFD will put on annual hurricane seminar again
- Get evacuation plan put on website (?)
- Fire break on state lands (UCFD wants a 30 foot fire break with reduced vegetation—state may be unwilling to cooperate)
- Advanced Life Support. Helicopter is available now. ALS requires big funding. E.g., medical direct, 300 hours of call time and training/year; upgraded equipment; all very expensive. UCFD already has provisions for intubating and defibrillating, and giving oxygen (heart attack victims must just get to the hospital).

Other comments

- Fire Protection Plan—now an ISO rating of 7; used to be a 9.