

Candidates

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stories, four stories, none of that.”

Commissioner Harvey Ward told the crows he plans to vote against the proposal.

“I don’t think the community is prepared for it, quite frankly,” he said. “There should be an opportunity in a community like ours to have an in-depth, nuanced discussion about how we solve the housing crisis.”

Ed Bielarski, the former general manager of Gainesville Regional Utilities, who also opposes the zoning change, said the vast majority of residents he has met on the campaign trail are concerned the change would negatively impact property values.

“They have a 30-year investment in an asset that is being changed mid-stream,” Bielarski said. “The idea that we are going to end racial inequity by opening up single-family parcels of land to multiplexes is kind of incredulous to me. It needs a very broad discussion.”

In Minneapolis, a much larger city than Gainesville where they eliminated the exclusionary single-family zoning in 2018, only a handful of properties have ended up becoming multi-family so far, experts say.

“We’re talking in a few years we might get a few duplexes on the northwest side (of Gainesville),” candidate July Thomas added. “There is no reason the commission needs to rush this.”

School board races

School board candidates debated over employee pay, as well as finding the next superintendent. A majority of the candidates said teachers and bus

drivers are leaving the school district due to poor pay and that student discipline issues have gotten worse and uncontrollable.

Kay Abbott, an educator in Alachua County for 10 years who is running for the District 5 seat, said it has been difficult to retain teachers due to those reasons.

“Behavior is out of control in the district, and it’s very difficult to learn in a classroom where there is this misbehavior,” she said. “A lot of the teachers that I have spoken to have talked about how they are not supported by the administration.”

Her opponent, Prescott Cowles, who currently serves as the special projects manager for the district’s office of accountability, said when he served on the instructional bargaining team, teachers in Alachua County received the largest salary increase in the history of the district.

He said educators have been “under attack from legislators in Tallahassee,” and need a “champion who can bring forth meaningful change to restore the dignity of the profession.”

A majority of the school board candidates also expressed interest in conducting a national search for the new permanent superintendent, but only after the board outlines its priorities and engages the community.

In March, the Alachua County School Board named Shane Andrew the district’s interim superintendent two weeks after firing Carlee Simon from the role.

The primary election is scheduled for August 23, with early voting set to begin on August 13. For races with more than two candidates in which no one earns more than 50% of the vote, there will be a runoff in November pitting the top two finishers against each other.

Summit

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band, Christian Ziegler, is the vice chair of the Florida GOP.

The group gained momentum, and criticism, after confronting school leaders over COVID-19 restrictions and how race was being taught in classrooms, carving out a vocal presence in a Republican-led push to win control of local school boards.

It has since grown to 211 chapters in 38 states and close to 100,000 active members, Justice said. It has expanded its reach to issues including how and when schools can teach students about LGBTQ issues — even as teachers, advocates and other parents argued the subjects they’re targeting isolate already vulnerable queer students and students of color and erase key aspects of U.S. history.

Justice attributed that rapid growth to the organiza-

tion’s ability to tap into frustrations of parents who got an in-depth look at how their children were being taught as schools shifted to online, at-home instruction during the ongoing pandemic.

“We’re moms, and we know what moms are worried about,” Justice said.

The group incorporated as a 501(c)(4) “social welfare” nonprofit, which means it can do some political work without having to disclose its funders.

The group’s three federal political action committees and one Florida political committee — which are required to disclose donors — had no money in them as of Tuesday. Justice repeated denials that the group’s rapid growth was funded by dark money.

While the organization has billed itself as a non-partisan parental rights movement, the summit will feature a host of Republican speakers including Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, First Lady Casey DeSantis, U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, and former President Donald Trump Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson.

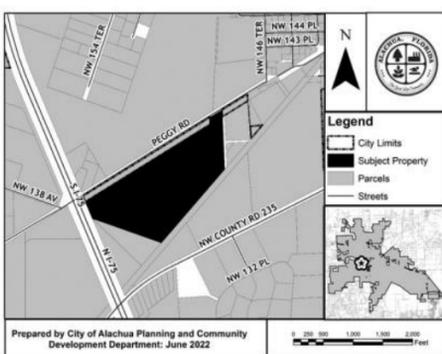
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The ordinance title is as follows:

ORDINANCE 22-18

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE LARGE SCALE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP; AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP CLASSIFICATION ON ±51.7 ACRES FROM AGRICULTURE AND RURAL/AGRICULTURE (ALACHUA COUNTY) TO MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ON A PARCEL OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF PEGGY ROAD AND LEGACY PARK, EAST OF INTERSTATE - 75, NORTH OF THE CSX RAILWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY; TAX PARCEL NUMBERS 03924-000-000, 03865-000-000, AND 03917-200-002; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



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GF-31178780

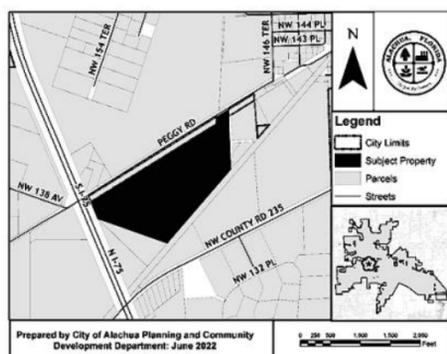
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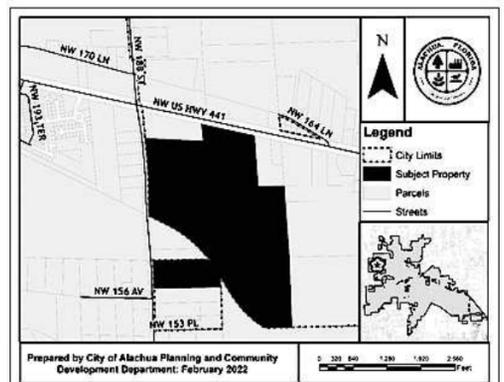
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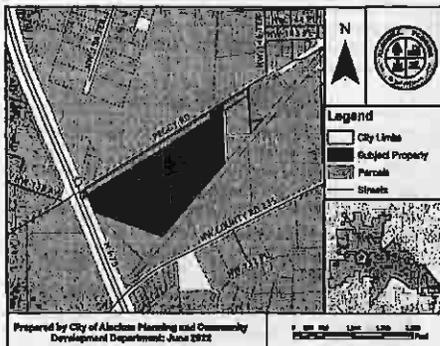
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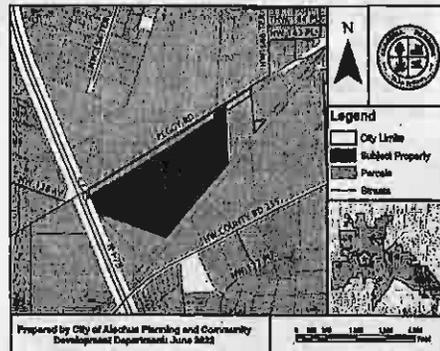
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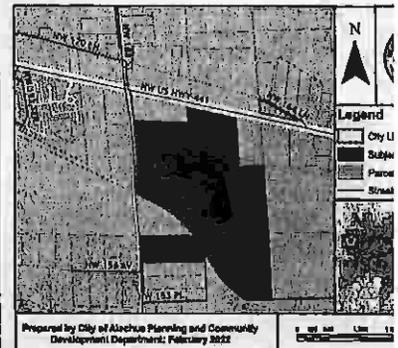
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AFFIDAVIT FOR POSTED LAND USE SIGN

I Melissa Watson, POSTED THE LAND USE
SIGN ON 6/23/22 FOR THE Peggy Rd Planned Development LSCPA/RZ
LAND USE ACTION.
(Name) (Date) (State type of action and project name)

AS PER ARTICLE 2.2.9 D OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.

THIS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

Melissa Watson
(Signature)

One (1)
(Number of signs)