

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD : Entry # 55891

Comments must be received by noon one day before the actual meeting and they will be distributed to the Council/Board but will not be read at the meeting.

Choose The Meeting You Are Commenting On

Village Council Meeting

Name

Terry Koch

Address

14241 Moonlit Way
Estero 33928
United States
[Map It](#)

Community

Corkscrew Shores

Emailkoch999@gmail.com**Phone**

(216) 496-0502

Representing

Myself

Date

04/16/2024

Agenda Item No. or Topic

Bonita Estero Rail Trail

Comments

Regarding the workshop item about BERT, I commend the Estero Village administration, Mayor, and Council members for being proactive and supportive of the Bonita Estero Rail Trail. You are acting with vision and with a sense of urgency to make the trail come to fruition. The trail will be an immensely popular attraction in Estero and in the area and it will enhance the quality of life for so many.
Thank you.

Notes**Admin Notification (ID: 5e70ca9c71a8d)**

added 48 mins ago

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PUBLIC COMMENT CARD : Entry # 55850

Comments must be received by noon one day before the actual meeting and they will be distributed to the Council/Board but will not be read at the meeting.

Choose The Meeting You Are Commenting On

Village Council Meeting

Name

Don Greenglass

Address

19531 Lost Creek Drive
Estero 33967
United States
[Map It](#)

Community

The Vines

Emaildongreenglass@hotmail.com**Phone**

(917) 445-6060

Representing

The Vines

Date

04/15/2024

Agenda Item No. or Topic

Acquisition for BERT. Item 12.A on the agenda

Comments

I strongly request that you, as well as all of the other involved governmental entities, start to listen to the very legitimate concerns that your constituency have, regarding BERT. I am in favor of creating this path/park/greenway, but do not even begin to think that this should be allowed to go through The Vines, a private, gated, secure community. As I am sure you are aware, if this project moves forward, it would be the very first time in our country that such a conversion from a railroad to a trail through an existing private, gated, secure community will be attempted. In my opinion, and one that is shared by many of your constituents, such an action would devastate our community. Already, there have been real estate contracts that have fallen through in The Vines solely because of the potential that such a trail might exist, bisecting this secure community. The effect it would have on our residents, your constituents, would be devastating. At a recent meeting concerning this issue, all of those approximately 100+ in attendance (except for the Mayor of Estero) committed to fighting this potential action to our fullest capabilities, and rest assured, there may very well be strong legal issues to fight such a project. The rationale that is being put forth by various groups (Friends of BERT, TPL, and numerous elected officials) is faulted and often times facts and comments made have been slanted, distorted and

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD : Entry # 55850

untrue. These groups have knowingly bared "opponents" from membership in their non profit entities and have even gone so far as to have removed opposing point of views and corrections of misinformation from public comment, to further their own agenda. There have been vague promises that our concerns will be addressed, but frankly, the way that this whole project has been orchestrated leads many of us to believe that once the bulldozers arrive, The Vines issues will be ignored, just as they have been thus far. So, please do not commit to authorizing any public funds to this project as it exists today. If the project were altered to go around The Vines, we would all support it wholeheartedly. Otherwise, it will be most definitely be fought. We will not allow this to happen to The Vines. We support this trail through Estero and Bonita Springs, but never directly through The Vines. Save time and public funds by utilizing the existing bike lanes to connect BERT to John Yarborough and go around The Vines.

Notes**Admin Notification (ID: 5e70ca9c71a8d)**

added 19 hours ago

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