



Environmental Confederation
of Southwest Florida

July 20, 2022

RE: Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2022-B (CPA 2022-B)

The Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida (ECOSWF) is an umbrella organization with organizations and individual members from 8 counties, including Sarasota County.

The purpose of ECOSWF is the protection of flora, fauna and historic places.

Old Miakka is a historic place. Founded in 1850, 172 years ago, Miakka or Old Miakka remains a viable rural and agricultural community.

In the *Old Miakka Neighborhood Plan*, Sarasota County Staff wrote:

Old Miakka is particularly rich in local history. With historical records dating further back than many areas of Sarasota county, and the county itself, the area not only prides itself on its impressive history but also its ability to continue to preserve it.

Today Miakka is a quaint community containing ten historic structures: a church. A general store (it has since burned down), and eight rural residences. There is a strong sense of place here, a rural identity linking humans and land.

Proposed CPA 2022-B will NOT allow the impressive history to continue to be preserved.

Proposed CPA 2022-B will DESTROY the sense of place, a rural identity linking humans and land.

Under the direction of Sarasota Historic Resources Department, the Miakka Community Club participated in *Place Matters*.

Place Matters is a national campaign that encourages people to celebrate the places that are meaningful to them and to their communities.

People around the world are sharing photos of the places they hold dear. But this campaign isn't just about photography. It's about telling the stories of the places we can't live without. Through *This Place Matters*, we hope to encourage and inspire an ongoing dialogue about the importance of place and preservation in all of our lives.

It is about telling stories of places we can't live without and the importance of place and preservation in all our lives.

Old Miakka is known around the world as a place that matters.

Proposed CPA 2022-B will destroy Old Miakka.

It will eliminate a rural community forever, leaving nothing for current and future generations to live on, learn from and love...the land.

THEREFORE:

The Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida requests you DENY proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2022-B.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Ayech

President ECOSWF