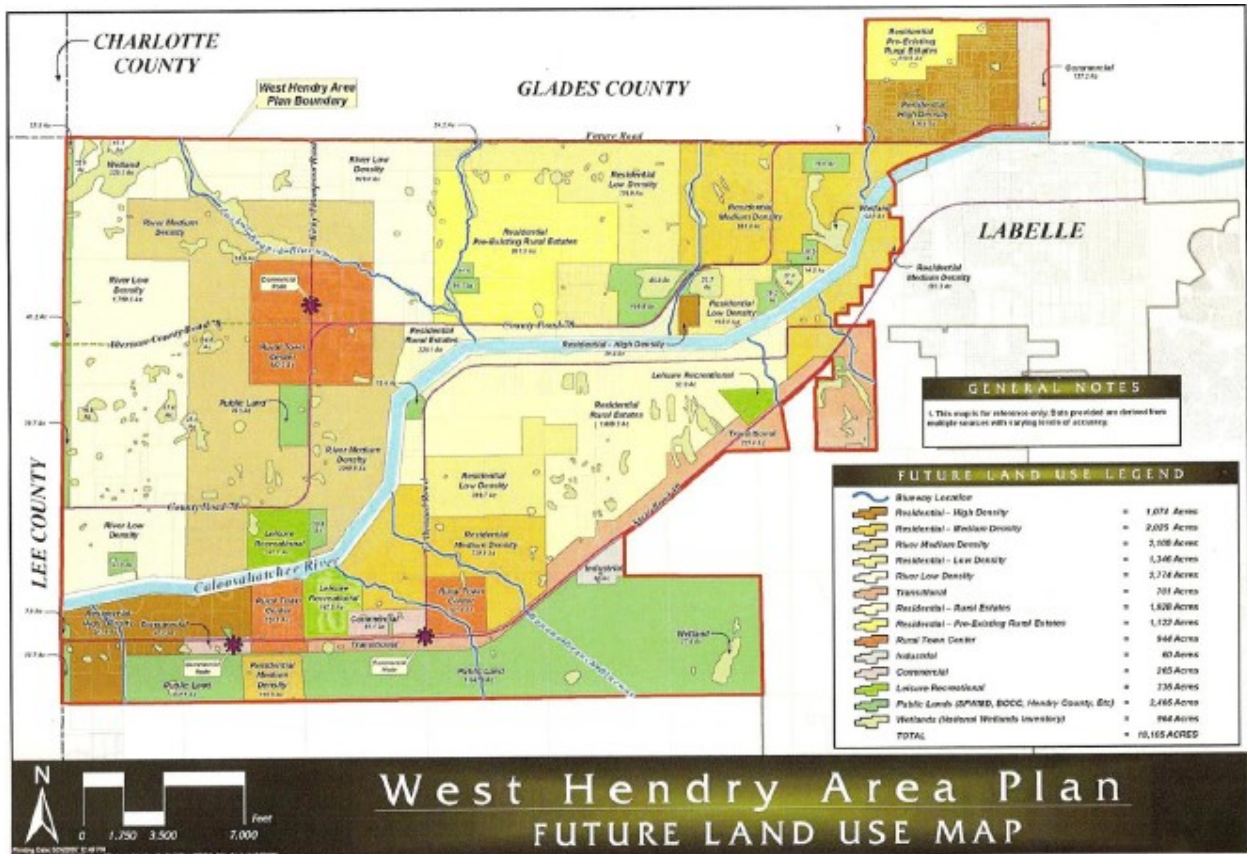


## West Hendry Area Plan



The “West Hendry” area consists of approximately 18,000 acres located between LaBelle and Alva. A Comprehensive Plan Change submittal entitled *West Hendry Area Plan* was forwarded to FL DCA by Hendry County in June, 2007. The plan may be viewed at Hendry County Planning Office, online through the Comprehensive Plan Archives (Florida Papers Hen No -07-1 Part 2) at [www.dca.state.fl.us](http://www.dca.state.fl.us), or may be purchased from DeLisi Fitzgerald at 239-418-0691.

The *West Hendry Area Plan* Project Team included: Planning and Team Coordination, Daniel DeLisi, DeLisi Fitzgerald; Community Outreach, Amy Gravina, Gravina Smith and Matte; Support with Graphics and GIS mapping, David Place and Bonita Bay Group.

The proposed plan met with widespread objection and opposition from reviewers:

[Department of Community Affairs ORC Report](#)

[Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council Report](#)

[South Florida Water Management District Objections](#)

[Impact Chart of West Hendry Plan by SFWMD](#)

[Department of Environmental Protection Objection](#)

[Florida Wildlife Federation Objection](#)

[Conservancy of Southwest Florida, Responsible Growth Management Coalition and Riverwatch Opposition](#)

Concerns cited include:

- Proposal affects adjacent local governments and thereby should be addressed on a regional basis.
- Proposal would accommodate an additional 104,000 people beyond the recently- approved South LaBelle Community amendment of 49,000 people.
- No need was established.
- Plan would create Urban Sprawl.
- Public Facilities planning is not addressed.
- Not supported by a financially feasible plan.
- Water supply demands are underestimated.
- Protection is required and not provided for the Florida panther and other protected wildlife species, wetland systems and other natural resources.
- Compilation of County-wide natural resources data is required.

Alva was not a participant in the Plan review. Awareness came to us slowly from our friendly West Hendry neighbors. So, why would Alva care if 104,000 new neighbors arrived directly to the east? Perhaps added to “affects adjacent local governments” should be “wipes out adjacent historical rural community”. It might also cause our rural neighborly hospitality to wear thin. Traffic through Alva, past the school and over the Alva bridge would be more than one can imagine. And then there’s the new Super 78 (shown as a small dotted line on the above map -“Alternate County Road 78”), planned to dump traffic at the Lee County line on Persimmon Ridge.

West Hendry citizens are concerned. They are mobilizing Community Planning initiatives to preserve and enhance the quality of life in the West Hendry Area. The West Hendry Community Council is in the formation stage. Please contact the officers and offer your support and assistance, and offer prayers that this will all go away:

## **West Hendry Community Council Officers**

President: Mel Karau, [melkarau@aol.com](mailto:melkarau@aol.com)

Vice President: Monica Moore, [MMOORE-NETGAIN@ATT.NET](mailto:MMOORE-NETGAIN@ATT.NET)

Secretary: Jeannie Horlacher, [g8rb8@copper.net](mailto:g8rb8@copper.net)

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