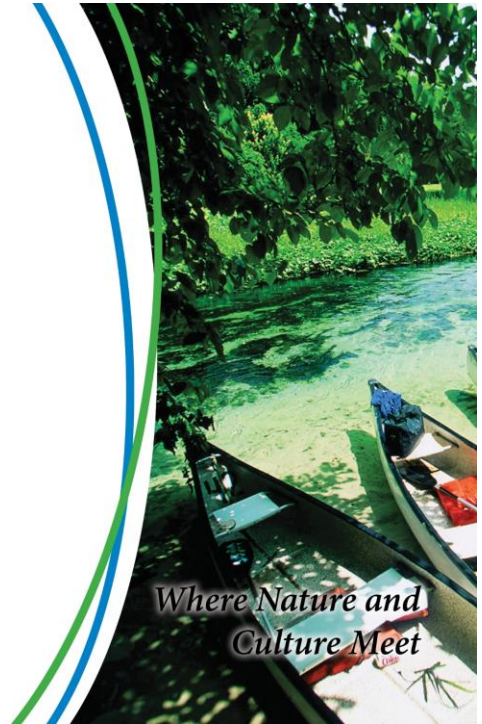




Tree Protection and Open Space CPA

**Planning
Commission Public
Hearing
225-000006**



1

Background



Board of County Commissioners, through a series of workshops, has identified specific trees for enhanced protection, and the need to provide some flexibility in the Open Space designation criteria to retain additional canopy throughout developments.

2

Current Policies



Policy 5.4.2 *New development shall conserve existing trees and native vegetation by use of sound arboricultural and horticultural practices that provide for the protection and long-term survival of the vegetation, as part of an overall strategy to achieve landscape, habitat preservation, and open space requirements. Conservation may entail grading restrictions, vegetation clustering, protective buffers, and density and intensity limitations, consideration of alternative layouts of permitted uses, and similar techniques that provide for the long-term survival of vegetation.*

Policy 5.4.3 *The County shall protect trees according to a species specific hierarchy. Trees shall receive priority for protection based on species, in conjunction with other features including size, age, condition, historic association, and uniqueness. Removal or damage of champion trees shall be prohibited, and removal or damage of designated specimen trees shall be avoided, or mitigated if removal or damage cannot be avoided. Specific protections shall be provided in the land development regulations.*

3

Proposed Policies – Conservation areas



- **Policy 3.1.1 – Add Champion trees and Landmark Live Oaks as a Conservation area**
- **New Objective 4.11 and Policies 4.11.1 – 4.11.3 describe the protection for Champion trees and Landmark Live Oaks**

4

Proposed Policies – Open Space



- **Policy 5.2.2 – Identify that Champion trees and Landmark Live Oaks do not require permanent protection**
- **Policy 5.2.3 – Removes the prescriptive requirement that Open Space be a single contiguous piece on the edge of a development**

5

Staff Recommendation



Find the Amendment consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and recommend that the Board of County Commissioners transmit the amendment to the State Land Planning Agency for Review

6



Questions

