

# **CITRUS COUNTY COUNCIL**

PO BOX 925 Lecanto, FL 34460

[www.citruscountycouncil.org](http://www.citruscountycouncil.org)

*"Working together to preserve quality of life in Citrus County"*

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT – 2009**

The Governance Committee monitors the actions of County Government and works to enhance the quality of media coverage. The Committee educates Citrus County citizens about their rights and responsibilities to make local government decisions and fiscal actions more open, effective, and efficient. We encourage both public and private action to create more healthy community standards, and to ensure that government acts in the interest of the citizens.

Actions taken in 2009 were:

- CCC Resolution 09-01, opposing the use of Municipal Service Taxing Units (MSTU) as a means to balance the County budget.
- Raise the issue of county disaster preparedness and spur the creation of its current "Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group" to bring the county into compliance,
- Establish dialogue with Director of Water Resources regarding the potential issue of water utilities and services privatization.
- Presentation of 200+ petitions to Senator Fasano opposing the rate increases by Progress Energy.
- Appearances at public meetings regarding (and speaking in opposition to) TBARTA, the Progress Energy Levy plant and pre-emptive rate increase, land use amendment hearing regarding "The Freezer."
- Opposed Comprehensive Plan amendment CPA 09-10 Amendment to Chapter Nine – Utility Element and Chapter Ten – Future Land Use Element, specifically to remove residential density restrictions in five mile radius of Progress Energy power plant.
- Researched and formed a joint workgroup with CCC Environment & Natural Resources Committee to oppose Comprehensive Plan amendments 09-13, 09-14, 09-15 the expansion of the River Lodge Resort RV Park and the creation of a new port district and development dubbed "Hollinswood Harbor."
- Met with Department of Community Affairs Planners in Tallahassee and presented extensive volume of material supporting the inappropriateness of the proposed changes. DCA subsequently reported a significant number of objections in its ORC (objections, Recommendations and Comments Report).
- Appearance at the county's Development Review Board regarding same issues, resulting in the PDRB to not approve 2 of the 3 CPAs before it and the withdrawal of 2 others by the applicant.
- Presented CCC Resolutions 09-02 and 09-3 opposing the expansion of the River Lodge Resort RV Park and the creation of a new port district and development dubbed "Hollinswood Harbor" respectively to the BoCC.
- Submitted letters to the Chronicle regarding issues of importance to the citizens.

The Committee continues to regularly attend bi-weekly Board of County Commissioners meetings, in its role as a government watch-dog, and meeting with County department heads to discuss issues.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Tom Mize, Committee Chair