

October 30, 2025

The Honorable Jay Zembower
Chairman, Seminole County
Board of County Commissioners
1101 East First Street
Sanford, Florida 32771

Dear Chairman Zembower,

FloridaCommerce has reviewed Seminole County's proposed comprehensive plan amendment (Amendment No. 25-01ESR), received on September 30, 2025, pursuant to the expedited state review process in Section 163.3184(2) and (3), Florida Statutes (F.S.). FloridaCommerce has identified no comment related to adverse impacts to important state resources and facilities within FloridaCommerce's authorized scope of review.

FloridaCommerce is, however, providing a technical assistance comment consistent with Section 163.3168(3), F.S. The technical assistance comment will not form the basis of a challenge. It is offered either as a suggestion which can strengthen the County's comprehensive plan in order to foster a vibrant, healthy community or is technical in nature and designed to ensure consistency with the Community Planning Act in Chapter 163, Part II, F.S. The technical assistance comment is:

Technical Assistance Comment 1: Potential Restrictive and Burdensome Policies

Chapter 2025-190 provides:

Section 28. (1) Each county listed in the Federal Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Debby (DR-4806), Hurricane Helene (DR-4828), or Hurricane Milton (DR-4834), and each municipality within one of those counties, may not propose or adopt any moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property damaged by such hurricanes; propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to its comprehensive plan or land redevelopment regulations; or propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before October 1, 2027, an any such moratorium or restrictive or burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This subsection applies retroactively to August 1, 2024.

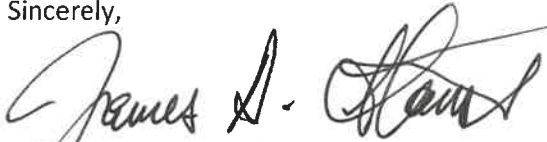
Staff has identified Public Schools Facilities Element Policies 1.1, 4.3 and 4.5 as potentially more restrictive or burdensome. A potential challenge may arise during the development permitting process when reviewing development for school concurrency purposes. The County should discuss these policies with their legal counsel to ensure that they are not applied in a more restrictive and/or burdensome manner.

The County should act by choosing to adopt, adopt with changes or not adopt the proposed amendment. For your assistance, the procedures for adoption and transmittal of the comprehensive plan amendment are enclosed. In addition, the County is reminded that:

- Section 163.3184(3)(b), F.S., authorizes other reviewing agencies to provide comments directly to the County. **If the County receives reviewing agency comments and they are not resolved, these comments could form the basis for a challenge to the amendment after adoption.**
- **The second public hearing**, which shall be a hearing on whether to adopt one or more comprehensive plan amendments, **must be held within 180 days** of your receipt of agency comments or the amendment shall be **deemed withdrawn** unless extended by agreement with notice to FloridaCommerce and any affected party that provided comment on the amendment pursuant to Section 163.3184(3)(c)1., F.S.
- **The adopted amendment must be transmitted to FloridaCommerce within ten working days after the final adoption hearing or the amendment shall be deemed withdrawn pursuant to 163.3184(3)(c)2., F.S.** Under Section 163.3184(3)(c)2. and 4., F.S., the **amendment effective date** is 31 days after FloridaCommerce notifies the County that the amendment package is complete or, if challenged, until it is found to be in compliance by FloridaCommerce or the Administration Commission.

If you have any questions concerning this review, please contact Avian Williams, Planning Analyst, by telephone at (850)-717-8504 or by email at Avian.Williams@Commerce.fl.gov.

Sincerely,



James D. Stansbury, Chief
Bureau of Community Planning and Growth

JDS/aw

Enclosure(s): Procedures for Adoption

cc: David German, Senior Planner, Seminole County
John Patterson, AICP, Planner III, East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

SUBMITTAL OF ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS

FOR EXPEDITED STATE REVIEW

Section 163.3184(3), Florida Statutes

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: Please submit electronically using FloridaCommerce's electronic amendment submittal portal "**Comprehensive Plan and Amendment Upload**" (<https://fldco.my.salesforce-sites.com/cp/>) or submit three complete copies of all comprehensive plan materials, of which one complete paper copy and two complete electronic copies on CD ROM in Portable Document Format (PDF) to the State Land Planning Agency and one copy to each entity below that provided timely comments to the local government: the appropriate Regional Planning Council, Water Management District, Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of State, the appropriate county (municipal amendments only), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (county plan amendments only), and the Department of Education (amendments relating to public schools), and for certain local governments, the appropriate military installation and any other local government or governmental agency that has filed a written request.

SUBMITTAL LETTER: Please include the following information in the cover letter transmitting the adopted amendment:

_____ State Land Planning Agency identification number for adopted amendment package.

_____ Summary description of the adoption package, including any amendments proposed but not adopted.

_____ Identify if concurrency has been rescinded and indicate for which public facilities. (Transportation, schools, recreation and open space).

_____ Ordinance number and adoption date.

_____ Certification that the adopted amendment(s) has been submitted to all parties that provided timely comments to the local government.

_____ Name, title, address, telephone, FAX number and e-mail address of local government contact.

_____ Letter signed by the chief elected official or the person designated by the local government.

ADOPTION AMENDMENT PACKAGE: Please include the following information in the amendment package:

_____ In the case of text amendments, changes should be shown in strike-through/underline format.

_____ In the case of future land use map amendments, an adopted future land use map, **in color format**, clearly depicting the parcel, its future land use designation and its adopted designation.

_____ A copy of any data and analyses the local government deems appropriate.

Note: If the local government is relying on previously submitted data and analysis, no additional data and analysis is required.

_____ Copy of the executed ordinance adopting the comprehensive plan amendment(s).

Suggested effective date language for the adoption ordinance for expedited review:

"The effective date of this plan amendment, if the amendment is not timely challenged, shall be 31 days after the state land planning agency notifies the local government that the plan amendment package is complete. If the amendment is timely challenged, this amendment shall become effective on the date the state land planning agency or the Administration Commission enters a final order determining this adopted amendment to be in compliance."

_____ List of additional changes made in the adopted amendment that the State Land Planning Agency did not previously review.

_____ List of findings of the local governing body, if any, that were not included in the ordinance, and which provided the basis of the adoption or determination not to adopt the proposed amendment.

_____ Statement indicating the relationship of the additional changes not previously reviewed by the State Land Planning Agency in response to the comment letter from the State Land Planning Agency.