

# Moore: Expo helps shop mortgages

Continued from page 2A

to impose a claim on the deposit and the reason for doing so via certified mail to the tenant's last known mailing address.

As for those looking to buy a house, you'll learn at the expo about shopping for the right mortgage for you and your fam-

ily and how to potentially get down payment assistance through different programs. Through the county's Housing and Community Development Division, assistance is provided based on household income and size.

Anyone looking to get approved must attend a Homebuyer Educational

Seminar. As for credit rating, a middle credit score of 620 or above is a requirement.

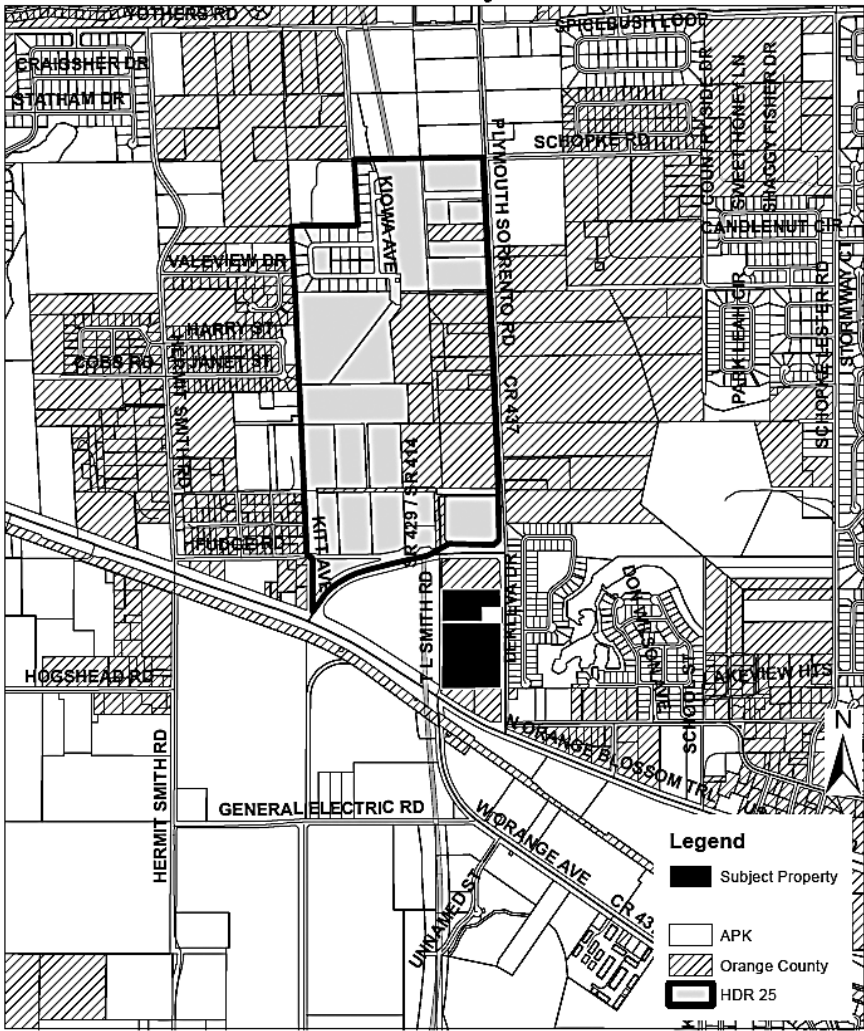
There's so much to share with our District 2 families! Please join the team at the John Bridges Center, 445 W. 13th St., Apopka 32703 on Saturday, Sept. 23 – tomorrow – from 9 a.m. to Noon.

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3) (c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinance, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **JONATHAN HUELS, ESQ.** has made an application to the City of Apopka Planning Commission and the City Council to **EXTEND THE SR 429/US 441 AREA MAP TO INCLUDE 750 AND 922 PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD FOR 13.05 +/- ACRES.** This application relates to the following described property:

### ORDINANCE NO. 3006

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; BY AMENDING MAP 1-1.a: POLICY 3.1.h.ii OF THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT BY EXTENDING THE SR 429 /US 441 AREA MAP TO INCLUDE 750 AND 922 PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD FOR 13.05 +/- ACRES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel ID Number(s) : 06-21-28-7172-08-050 and 06-21-28-7172-08-040  
Contains: 13.05 +/- acres

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3006 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023 beginning at 1:30 P.M** or soon thereafter.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Future Land Use Application can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

September 22, 2023

Publish: The Apopka Chief

174819

## Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?

Send a letter to the Editor online  
[www.theapopkachief.com](http://www.theapopkachief.com)

# Byrd: Budgeting difficulties shared

Continued from page 2A

Finance Program, which is quite a complicated system, but is basically based on the number of students that are present, attending school each day. This funding comes from state sales taxes, local property taxes and the additional voted millage that our generous voters have provided in Orange County.

While there was an increase this year in the per student funding, we are nowhere near where we should be as a state. At the beginning of the Great Recession in 2008, state funding declined dramatically until the funding reached its lowest point in 2011. State funding per student dropped to \$6,228.17 in 2011 and only rose to \$8,555.54 in July 2023.

To put that in perspective, the national average of per pupil funding is \$13,201. To further complicate matters, inflation had been modest with an average increase of less than two percent per year since the recession, until 2022 when inflation rose to 4.7 percent and is now hovering at 8 percent. What that means is that the purchasing power of the district has been greatly reduced.

Just as it is with you and your family, everything is costing us more. Our health care costs are skyrocketing with the district estimating the need to supplement the health trust fund with an additional \$42 million this year to keep it solvent and our construction costs have greatly increased as well. In fact, the average cost to build an elementary school has risen from \$21 million in 2022 to \$38 million in 2024.

The reduction of investment by the state in public education over the last several years is quite concerning. The percentage of the state budget that goes to education did increase this year from 43 percent to 43.9 percent.

But that percentage remains well below the pre-lottery amount of over 60 percent. In 1985, over 60 percent of the state budget was dedicated to education. In 2024, 43.9 percent is budgeted for education.

Within that 43.9 percent of the education budget, public K-12 schools are receiving less each year as well. This year, universities will have realized the largest increase in general revenue funding.

Many people think that the lottery filled in the gap in the reduction of state funding for education, but that is not exactly accurate.

In the early years of the Florida Lottery, 60 percent -70 percent of lottery dollars coming to education were for public schools. That number is now only 43 percent and none of those dollars would be considered educational enhancement since 89 percent of those funds support the regular state per student funding. Twenty-four percent of this funding is used to fund the Bright Futures Scholarships the state offers.

All of this de-prioritization of education in our state has caused Florida to be one of the lowest per-student funded states in the nation with one of the lowest average teacher salaries as a result. To further complicate the problem are the numerous unfunded mandates that the state requires of school districts in the

state. For example, the recent law passed this summer requiring that every teacher's classroom library be cataloged and approved by a licensed media specialist cost our school district over \$400,000 to implement. This funding was not provided by the state.

We are required to adopt state-approved textbooks for various subjects and the last round of adoptions cost our district \$30 million. The state line item funding for textbooks this year was only \$18 million.

We are required to provide transportation to all students who live outside a two-mile radius of schools. The funding provided by the state only covers about 60 percent of the expenses incurred by the district for that service each year.

The question every voter should be asking is why. Why is our state not prioritizing our public education system? When we think about what affects the most change in a society, we have to look at education as the great change maker.

Think about this: if all the members of our society are being educated and trained to be employable and productive members of society, they will use less of the other areas of the state budget. For example, healthcare costs go down when people take better care of themselves through preventative care and eating healthy foods. Both are easier to do with good jobs with benefits.

A well-educated and career-trained public results in a more productive and functional society. We have to demand better for our children and our society.

# Hayden: We must support Israel

Continued from page 2A

tection from the virus, but had all to do with establishing a power-grab over the "sheeple," and most of us fell for the lies and bogus "experts" with their false, and phony reports.

Now it is starting all over again. It is high time we start looking throughout our nation for leaders who, like Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, can handle the job we hire them for. Like the nation of Israel, we need to seek a leader who loves our nation and the Judeo-Christian standards that our nation was founded on. We need to find someone who will bring us back together under one banner (Old Glory), and unite us as We the People, instead of tribal separation.

This administration has turned its back on our greatest ally, the nation of Israel. In fact, they have been considering using our taxpayer dollars to support a movement called

Boycott, Divest from, and Sanction (BDS) Israel. The leaders of the movement have even stated their goal is to see the collapse of Israel from economic isolation.

We need to contact our elected leaders and let them know we do not want our tax dollars supporting this anti-Semitic rhetoric, and actions that are being promoted by radical Islamic influences through this administration.

Donald J Trump was the only president to keep our promise to Israel and move our embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and recognize the City of David as Israel's spiritual, political, and national center. By his presidential action, the United States of America was showing our support, and our unity with Israel's stand as the only Democracy in that part of the world.

Israel is seeking inroads to bring peace and stability to the nations surrounding it.

My prayer is that we

will choose to be a part of those efforts for peace. We have a responsibility to hire (vote for) those to be in office who love the United States and see it as an exceptional nation worth fighting for.

I don't care what color your skin is, your religion, your heritage, or education, but if you are a citizen of the United States of America, you need to stand for our glorious banner, the Stars and Stripes, place your hand over your heart when the National Anthem is playing, and thank GOD you are a part of this Constitutional Republic (if you don't know what this is, look it up). Let us support Israel and advise them they don't have to handle that job by themselves.

Let our pride be in what GOD has ordained through the wisdom of our Founding Fathers and the document they put their sacred honor on the line for, when signing the Constitution of the United States of America.

## ALL ABOUT APOPKA

### The Apopka Chief

Established 1923  
(USPS 545-440)

The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 23, 1879. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Folio Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 North Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712-3417. An annual subscription is \$25 in Orange County and \$30 outside Orange County. Phone 407-886-2777. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Apopka Chief, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.

The Apopka Chief is a consistent award-winning community weekly newspaper and a member of the Florida Press Association. The newspaper won the group's award as its best newspaper in 1982, 1987, and 1988, the only three-time winner. Letters to the editor are welcome, but must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, address, or email address for verification. Management reserves the right to edit letters.

[www.theapopkachief.com](http://www.theapopkachief.com), [news@theapopkachief.com](mailto:news@theapopkachief.com)



#### City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall .....	407-703-1700
Mayor's Office .....	407-703-1701
City Administrator .....	407-703-1649
City Clerk .....	407-703-1704
Community Devel. ....	407-703-1712
Code Enforcement .....	407-703-1738
Finance Dept. ....	407-703-1725
Fire (non-emerg.).....	407-703-1756
Parks and Rec. Dept. ....	407-703-1741
Police Chief .....	407-703-1769
Police (non-emerg.).....	407-703-1771
Job Line.....	407-703-1743
Solid Waste Collect.....	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance .....	407-703-1731
Utility Billing .....	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. <b>www.apopka.net</b>	

#### Orange County Telephone Numbers

Animal Services.....	407-836-3111
Auto/Boat Tags.....	850-617-2000
Building Dept. ....	407-836-8550
County Mayor .....	407-836-7370
County Commission.....	407-836-7350
County Attorney .....	407-836-7320
Clerk of the Court.....	407-836-2065
Elections Supervisor.....	407-836-2070
Fire/Rescue .....	407-836-3111
Solid Waste .....	407-836-6601
Garbage Collection.....	407-703-1731
Health Dept. ....	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic .....	888-347-4356
Parks and Rec. Dept.....	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser.....	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative .....	407-254-7000
Non-Emerg. Complaint.....	407-836-4357
Utilities .....	407-836-5515
All other departments .....	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
<b>www.orangecountyfl.net</b>	

#### Other Area Numbers of Note

<b>U.S. Senators</b>	
Rick Scott (Rep.) .....	202-224-5274
Marco Rubio (Rep.).....	407-254-2573
<b>U.S. Representative</b>	
Maxwell Frost (Dist. 10) .....	202-225-2176
<b>State Representatives</b>	
Doug Bankson .....	407-476-6787
Carolina Amesty (Dist. 45) .....	unknown
<b>State Senators</b>	
Geraldine Thompson (Dist.11) .....	407-297-2045
<b>Orange County Commissioner</b>	
Christine Moore .....	407-836-7350
<b>Orange County Public Schools</b>	
Pupil assignment .....	407-317-3233
Bus routes.....	407-317-3800
Superintendent.....	407-317-3200
School Board.....	407-317-3200
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
The Apopka Chief .....	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans.....	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce.....	407-886-1441



# Borjas: Public is asked to be aware of road closures

Continued from page 1A

from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tre Jones, Sean Holcomb and Chris Rodriguez will give musical performances.

Armando Borjas Jr. spent 14 years fighting fires and saving lives with the Apopka Fire Department and seven years active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps. In 2011 Armando was diagnosed with stage IV esophageal cancer, which he battled for two years until his death at age 39.

In an effort to keep Armando's memory alive and carry on his legacy of public service, the Armando Borjas Jr. Scholarship Foundation was established in 2015.

Through the years, this foundation has helped raise awareness for fire department-related cancer, PTSD, and mental health problems, assisted many local organizations with further helping those in need within the Apopka community, and created a scholarship that helps send local youth to fire and EMT school.

The foundation's mission is to provide financial sup-

port to first-responders and aspiring first-responders in their professional education while engaging in local community awareness activities and support to families of fallen and injured first-responders.

## Road closures

There will be street closures in the community for the Armando Borjas Jr. Scholarship Foundation -

9/11 Memorial Run and Together As One Festival on Saturday, September 23.

The affected streets are as follows:

\*Fifth Street between Park Ave and Central Ave (6 a.m.-6:30 p.m.)

\*Central Ave between 5th Street and Station Street; detour available using Fifth/Station streets (8-9:30 a.m.)

\*Station Street be-

tween Central Avenue and Sixth Street (8-9:30 a.m.)

\*Sixth Street between Station Street and McGee Avenue (8-9:30 a.m.)

\*McGee Avenue to "the Hilton fountain" (8-9:30 a.m.)

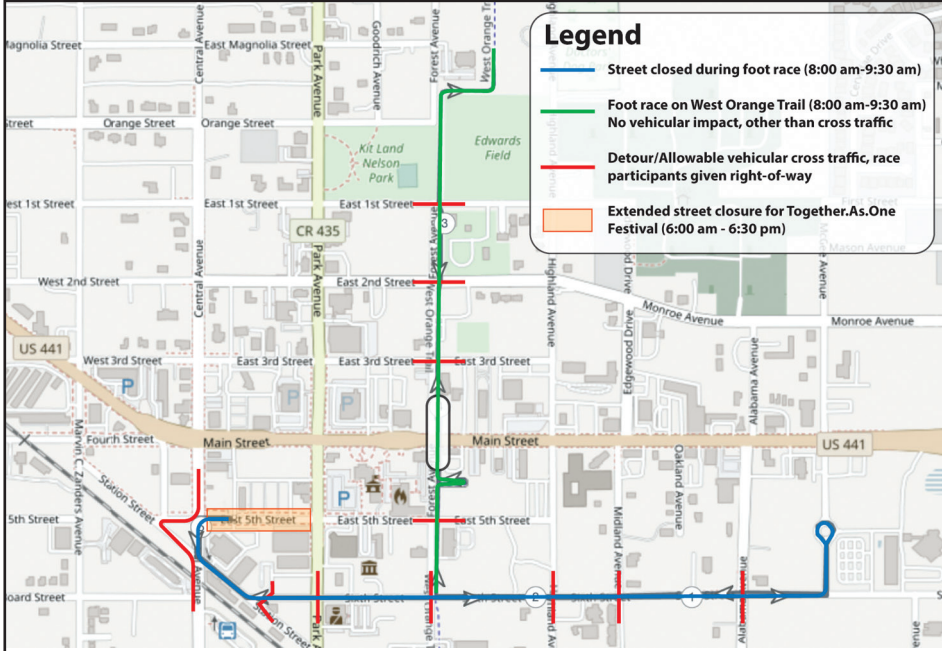
Additional cross traffic may be affected along West Orange Trail (WOT) including the following: East Fifth St/WOT, Third Street/WOT, East Second Street/

WOT and East First Street/WOT.

Cross traffic will be allowed on affected streets. However, race participants

will be given priority.

Contact event organizer Dylan Spencer for additional information at dspencer@apopka.net



A map of road closures for the September 23 9/11 Memorial Run and Together As One Festival.

**Send Us Your News**  
Visit [www.TheApopkaChief.com](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com)  
Phone: 407-886-2777 • Fax: 407-889-4121  
Email: [news@theapokkachief.com](mailto:news@theapokkachief.com)

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**The Apopka Chief**  
  
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**Deadline for Friday's publication: Tuesday, 5 p.m. email: [legals@theapokkachief.com](mailto:legals@theapokkachief.com)**  
  
**Notices are also published online: [www.theapokkachief.com/advertisements/public-notices](http://www.theapokkachief.com/advertisements/public-notices) and legal notices for Orange County and Statewide on Florida public notices.com**

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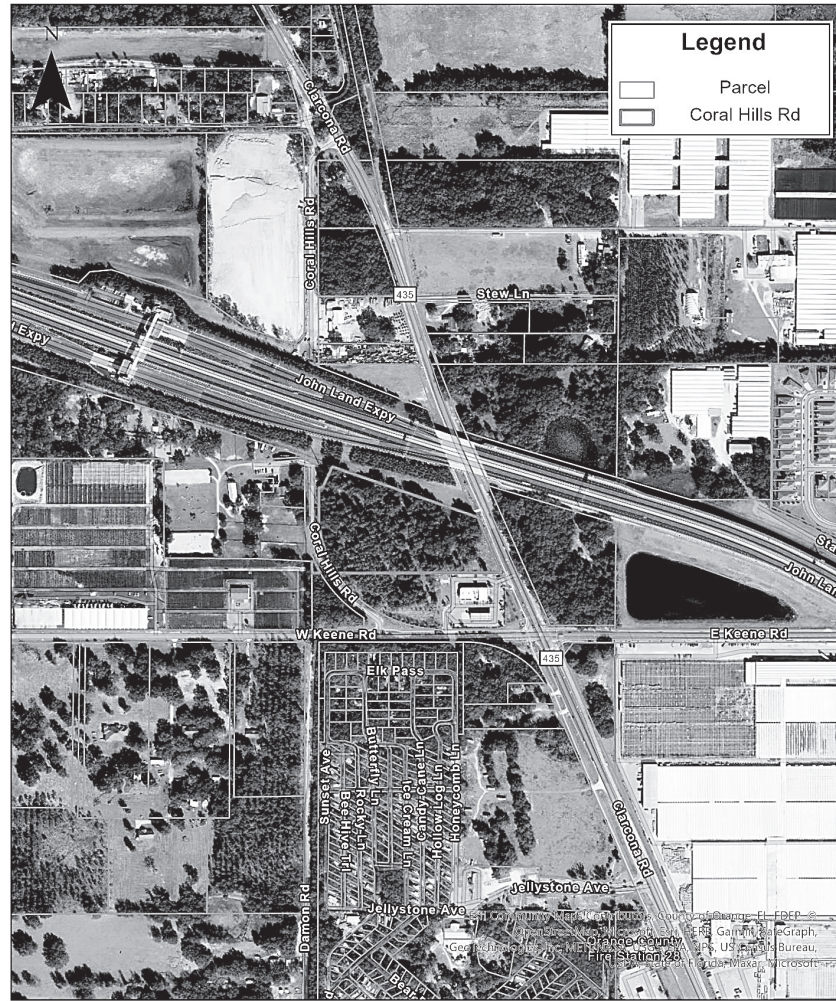
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1801 E. COLONIAL DRIVE  
SUITE 108, ORLANDO, FL 32803  
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3238 S US HWY 17 N2  
CASSELBERRY, FL 32707  
**LEESBURG (352) 306-0133**  
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Although medical marijuana is legal in Florida, it remains illegal under federal law.

Tell them you saw it in The Apopka Chief

## CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3) (a), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **Sarah Maier, Dewberry Engineers** has made application relating to the following described property.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3026**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM C-C (COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL) TO C-R (REGIONAL COMMERCIAL), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED 2301 CORAL HILLS ROAD; OWNED BY HDH DEVELOPMENT, LLC COMPRISING 6.36 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**



Parcel Identification Number(s): 22-21-28-0000-00-068, 22-21-28-0000-00-207  
Contains: 6.36 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, October 10, 2023 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3026 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, November 1, 2023 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** AND **Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Rezoning Application can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

September 22, 2023

Publish: The Apopka Chief

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