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St. Lucie County Media Relations  
2300 Virginia Ave.  
Fort Pierce, Fla. 34982  
[www.stlucieco.gov](http://www.stlucieco.gov)

For more information, contact:  
Erick Gill, Public Information Officer  
(772) 462-1791 Office / [gille@stlucieco.org](mailto:gille@stlucieco.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **ST. LUCIE COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING HOLDS EAR WORKSHOP MARCH 18**

FORT PIERCE – The St. Lucie County Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public workshop to discuss updates to the County's Comprehensive Plan on Thursday, March 18 at 6 p.m. in the Commission Chambers on the third floor of the St. Lucie County Administration Building, Roger Poitras Annex, 2300 Virginia Ave.

St. Lucie County is undertaking an update to its Comprehensive Plan to make the plan greener and is seeking input on those changes from the Planning and Zoning Commission/Local Planning Agency. The Comprehensive Plan (officially called “EAR-based Comprehensive Plan Amendments”) provides direction for land development, land preservation and is the basis for zoning regulations.

Residents, business owners and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend and express their views on the proposed changes in the plan. Previous workshops were held by St. Lucie County's Growth Management Department on Feb.8, Feb.15 and March 8.

Those who cannot attend the March 18 workshop are encouraged to send comments in writing through the County's website: [www.stlucieco.gov/growth/EAR.htm](http://www.stlucieco.gov/growth/EAR.htm). Also available on this webpage is a copy of the draft document for download and review.

Last year the Board of County Commissioners adopted the state-required Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) of the St. Lucie Comprehensive Plan that the Florida Department of Community Affairs approved in January 2009. The EAR outlines policy changes including addressing greenhouse gas reduction and green building practices.

The greener Comprehensive Plan parallels the County's application to become a certified "Green Local Government" through the Florida Green Building Coalition. The Comprehensive

Plan will support the Greenprint philosophy adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, which outlines the County's vision of a sustainable future.

The St. Lucie County Planning and Zoning Commission has the power to review and recommend to the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners, for approval or disapproval, any applications within their area of responsibility.

Anyone with a disability requiring accommodation to attend this meeting should contact the St. Lucie County Risk Manager at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting at (772) 462-1546 or T.D.D. (772) 462-1428. Any questions about this agenda may be referred to St. Lucie County Planning Division at (772) 462-2822.

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