COMMUNITY APPEARANCE STANDARDS WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP VOTING AND SURVEY RESULTS

The Community Appearance Standards Workshop took place at the Collins Community Center on Monday, June 18, 2007. The workshop included 52 residents and interested stakeholders, 28 City staff members and 2 City Commissioners, for a total of more than 80 attendees. This document provides the numerical tabulation and listing of voting sheet comments and responses received from residents at each table, i.e the raw data. The numbers corresponding to each issue refer to the total number of responses for each category or statement/comments. For multiple choice responses, residents were allowed to choose more than one response, therefore the total importance level responses and the multiple choice responses do not add up to equal the same number.

Parking

1. Recreational Vehicle (RV) Parking

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
21	**16**	**4**	**2**	**3**

a.) Amend definition of recreational vehicle to include boats-**27**
b.) Amend the code to specify-**21**
    1.) where recreational vehicles can be stored, and/or-**11**
    2.) require screening if recreational vehicle is parked in front or side yard-**15**
c.) Maintain current requirements-**5**

2. Commercial Vehicle Parking and Equipment Storage

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
23	**12**	**4**	**0**	**7**

a.) Revise code to prohibit all commercial equipment storage-**20**
b.) Permit commercial equipment storage with limitation on quantity-**23**
c.) Prohibit overnight commercial vehicle parking in the swale-**30**
d.) Maintain current requirements-**4**

3. Required Off-Street Automobile Parking

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
20	**12**	**4**	**4**	**4**

a.) Require 5 ft setbacks for driveways from interior side property lines-**15**
b.) Limit parking to prepared parking surface (i.e. no parking on the grass)-**28**
c.) Maintain current requirements-**11**

Additional Resident Comments

- Smaller pickup trucks should be permitted. People need these for their jobs.
- Require driveways.
- Out of view or screened.
- In the event that new requirements are implemented must have retro codes for existing with flexibility.
- Allow limited parking on swales. Number of vehicles per linear foot.
- Size an issue. Not too big, in driveway, as long as the RV or boat doesn't overextend onto sidewalk or swale or road.
- Driveway parking allowed.
- Park on swales O.K., not on front lawn.
- Pavers O.K., not cement.
- Park on own swale, not on others.
- More study needed.
- Need permits for some.

Landscaping

1. Commercial and Industrial Use Landscaping

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
29	**9**	**4**	**1**	**1**

a.) Increase landscape requirements for commercial and industrial properties-**23**
b.) Provide incentives for increased landscaping and incentives for green buildings-**22**
c.) Amend the code to create landscape buffers between zoning districts-**29**
d.) Maintain current requirements-**6**

2. Residential Landscaping

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
24	**10**	**3**	**2**	**5**

a.) Amend the code to provide the minimum landscaping requirements-**20**
b.) Revise the code to require more landscaping for multi-family buildings-**23**
c.) Provide code language for maintenance and upkeep requirements with penalties for noncompliance-**21**
d.) Require perimeter buffer between multi-family and single family residences-**24**
e.) Maintain current requirements-**13**

Additional Resident Comments

- Can you please help protect new swales that the homeowners are maintaining? I will leave my garbage can out as long as I need to protect it.
- Help homeowners protect their swales.
- The City is truly a mess. There needs to be accountability and enforcement to improve the overall appearance of the City.
- I think the City should act in a timely manner to help residents keep the area beautiful.
- Provide assistance to low income or elderly homeowners to help them comply.
- Increase impervious space.
- Change current requirements to improve.
- Forcing residents to plant additional landscaping is unfair and goes beyond what government should do. Maintaining and enforcing existing codes should suffice.
- Buffering between residential and commercial and industrial is very important.
- Churches.
- The County tax appraiser has visited every property and assessed it. Why can't the city do the same?
- Stay out of my yard!
- Incentives for residents.
- Time too short for study.
- Future owners might be required to be greener.
- With regard to safety for the residents not too much shrubbery for people to hide in and create crime zones.
- Maybe not per square foot just to provide adequate water percolation.
- Just what are the current requirements?
- With all the new construction going on let's take a good look at the swales and make adjustments to make drainage better.
- Phase in and create retro code for existing building. Create waivers for pushing requirements if it necessitates losing parking lots.
- Business! Industrial! Require Main Ave. Provide Landscaping. Consistent!
- Visually impacting on traveling public.
- Motivate improvement.
- Landscape buffers are very important.
- Incentives for improvements.
- Case by case situations.
- New builds and retrofits.

Property Maintenance

1. Commercial and Industrial Use Property Maintenance

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
32	**10**	**2**	**0**	**7**

a.) Provide more specific requirements for landscape maintenance, removal of junk and debris, and upkeep of signage and structures-**40**
b.) Maintain current requirements-**6**

2. Residential Property Maintenance

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
25	**18**	**1**	**2**	**5**

3. Swale Maintenance

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
20	**17**	**5**	**3**	**6**

a.) Pursue aggressive swale maintenance enforcement-**17**
b.) Educate residents on proper swale maintenance- **37**
c.) Other-**12**

Additional Resident Comments

- City needs more trees. Encourage tree planting.
- Allow paved swales where needed for lots.
- Keep the City out of my yard.
- Clean outside storage.
- Need swale protective devices.
- Rust stains. Paint.
- Equal application, residential or commercial.
- No painting signage on walls. Including free speech.
- Maintaining the structure for safety.
- Trash from businesses that blow onto homeowners properties.
- Maintain grass areas.
- [the City should] Pay for their own maintenance. Not on the homeowner. You own it, we pay to maintain it. Phooey!
- Improve.
- Grass on swale is unkept.
- Paint color code.

- Extremely important for overall visual aspect of city.
- Need to add maintenance of paint and appearance to both commercial and residential structures.
- No permanent parking in swale.
- Consistence. Appearance. Landscaping.
- Implement color limitations and requirements.
- Structure maintenance. Require rental and duplex maintenance provide for low income and elderly residents to have longer to comply.
- Go after the worse offenders. Rust stains on a house, is not a problem.
- Many people have gravel in the swale. I bought my house with it there. Forcing people to remove the gravel means I have a serious expense with extended irrigation. These people need to be grandfathered.
- Maintain lawns and added shrubbery where needed. Rental properties and commercial properties need to add more landscaping where there is none.
- No parking in swale, even temporarily.**-3**
- Signage requirements. Consistency.
- Obnoxious paint should be prohibited.
- Need a minimum landscape requirement.
- Businesses should be required to paint using neutral colors. Not harsh blues, pinks, and reds.
- We need our swales and sidewalks in our area.
- Things should be done in a timely manner.
- Junk, debris, trash upkeep.
- Require paved swales to be dug up. Litter containment on commercial properties.
- Outdoor storage-hurricane debris potential. City revitalize swales in neighborhood.
- Paint houses. Debris removal. Lawn height. Roof repair. No blue tarps, unless hurricane season.
- Ugly houses. Have taste people!
- Please help with enforcement of swales. We maintain, keep beautiful, pick up trash, yet traffic will drive on swells, use as passing lane. We will all end up with mud pits in our front yards if something is not done.
- Extremely important. Please allow us and help us protect our swells.
- No junk in front of houses/carports.
- City should not be able to tell you what color to paint your house.
- My street swale was paved. I want to keep it that way. Needed for a parking pad.
- Trash all over. Paint maintenance.
- Peeling paint/broken windows/ debris etc. Abandoned looking homes should be maintained by owners.
- Limit planting in the swale although plants will prohibit parking.
- Grass should be kept in good condition.
- Only owner parking in swale. No other cars in swale allowed.
- No parking on swales.
- No commercial vehicles in driveway, no rust on walls, no peeling paint.

- Make commercial property clean up litter in the bushes and around.
- Enforce rules timely.
- Manicure yards; no junk cars; removal of trash and debris; no parking on grass; cut vacant lots.
- Reduce churches.

Structure Setbacks

1. Accessory Structures in Front Yards and Side Yards

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
12	**15**	**6**	**4**	**7**

a.) Amend the code to define recreational vehicle shelters as structures and prohibit such structures-**18**
b.) Prohibit pools within the front yards-**19**
c.) Allow pools within front yards-**15**
1.) with requirements for screen, or-**11**
2.) without requirements for screen.-**4**
d.) Prohibit pools within the corner side yards-**11**
e.) Allow pools within the corner side yards-**19**
1.) with requirements for screen, or-**14**
2.) without requirements for screen-**4**
f.) Redefine the meaning of structures and buildings to more clearly state that canopies are considered a structure and should be regulated as such-**29**
g.) Maintain current requirements-**7**

2. Recreational Equipment in Swales and on Sidewalks

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
19	**12**	**4**	**6**	**3**

*** Additional Resident Comments***

- Requirements should be based on fence and landscape.-**4**
- Prohibiting pools is very important.
- Recreational equipment in swales and on sidewalks should not be allowed.
- Play equipment should be subject to the same standards as homes.
- Children need not play.
- Canvas structures need to be made permanent.
- Maintain setbacks.
- Make basketball hoops come in at night.
- Sheds, canopies, and fences in front.

- Allow kids to use recreational equipment; however, items must be put away at night.
- The street is not a park.
- Stay out of my yard.

Screening and Buffering

1. Residential Outdoor Storage

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
20	**12**	**5**	**4**	**3**

a.) Amend the code to create a specific list of items allowed to be stored as open air storage and-**15**
  1.) screen from view and neighboring properties and right-of-way-**19**
  2.) allow without screening-**3**
b.) Allow open air storage only in the rear of house and not visible from public right-of-way and neighboring properties-**22**
c.) Maintain current requirements-**5**

2. Unenclosed Dumpsters

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
36	**7**	**1**	**1**	**4**

a.) Establish minimum standards for dumpster design and location, and require citywide compliance within a specified time frame-**36**
b.) Maintain current requirements-**0**

3. Power Generators and Air-Conditioning Units

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
13	**12**	**10**	**6**	**7**

Would you be in favor of a requirement for screening/landscaping of power generators and air-conditioning units?

a.) Yes-**21**
b.) Maybe-**6**
c.) No-**12**

Additional Resident Comments

- Flexibility for density.
- Visible from street only.
- Flexible structures.-**3**
- A reasonable standard.
- Don't want more City power, people need to live too. It should be reasonable.
- Exclude service alleys.
- Change dumpster size.
- Screening and buffering is very important.-**2**
- Hard to do with land restrictions.
- Should be in rear of lots only.
- More units.
- Relocation only.
- Concrete block construction.
- Prohibit outdoor storage.
- Enclose, make a landscape a requirement. It is all about aesthetics where businesses would want to relocate and establish.
- Storage of property should not be a concern of the City.
- Flexible walls for enclosure on public streets with doors shut.
- Require enclosed and doors shut at all times. Landscape when possible.
- Noise and location are more important.
- Garbage cans should be placed in the back yard. No exceptions.
- Things should not be visible from outside the property.
- Plant palms and hedges or fence to separate industrial from resident.
- Toys and patio furniture-O.K., no boxes or junk.
- Stay out of my yard.
- City needs to give incentives.

Signage

1. Signage

Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Reply
13	**20**	**6**	**0**	**4**

Would you be in favor of requiring business owners to adhere to stricter signage requirements?

a.) Yes-**23**
b.) Maybe-**20**
c.) No-**0**

Should signage be stricter in terms of:

a.) Height-**25**
b.) Size-**26**
c.) Lighting-**11**
d.) Changeable copy-**7**
e.) Number of signs allowed-**18**
f.) Other-**8**

What type of signage is the biggest issue in the City of Oakland Park?

a.) Snipe signs-**18**
b.) Wall signs-**7**
c.) Pole signs-**22**
d.) Other-**8**

Additional Resident Comments

- Need more information.
- Enforcement.
- Signage parameters for signage requirements should be specifically outlined and enforced. Parameters should be available and communicated to the public.
- City should be held to same codes and enforcement.
- We need sign locations.
- Worn out signs.
- Campaign.
- Old and dilapidated looking signs.
- Clean up old signage.
- Long term damaged signs.
- Code needs to reflect a more uniform structure of signage.
- Signs should be maintained and up to date. Consistency should not be required.
- Hurricane issues and signage.-**3**
- Make permits for regular signs easier to get snipe signs become unnecessary/
- Absolutely no same signage necessary.
- Maintenance and appearance.
- Old yard sale and political signs on poles.
- Remove and enforce violators.
- Cure visual pollution.-**2**
- Broken, damaged, deteriorated signs-**5**
- Too many, inconsistent.
- When a business changes signs, they should adhere to new codes and replace signs.
- Politicians and garage sales persons should be required to remove signs.
- Business owners should maintain their signs.
- Ugly signs.
- Moveable/temporary signs that never leave.

- I think every business with a damaged sign should be required to meet the new code immediately and everyone else gets five years to meet.
- Maintenance is important.

WORKSHOP SURVEY

1. How did you hear about us?

Newspaper-**13**
Person/Friend-**10**
Phone-**8**
Email-**7**
Mail-**4**
Association-**3**
Flyer-**2**
Letter-**1**

2. What prompted you to come to this workshop?

Particular Issues-**8**
Concern-**7**
Interest-**6**
Information-**4**
Helping-**3**
Soup Kitchen-**2**
City Appearance-**2**
Improvements-**1**
The Commissioner-**1**
Nature of Program-**1**
Involvement-**1**
Welfare of City-**1**
Curiosity-**1**
Complaint-**1**
No Reply-**1**

3. How could this workshop have been enhanced?

No Reply-**18**
Comments-**7**
More detail/information/content-**4**
Nothing-**4**
More advertisements-**1**
Less interruptions-**1**

Voting-**1**
Extend time-**1**
More notification-**1**
Not sure-**1**
Food-**1**

4. Are there any additional issues or concerns that you wish to express?

Yes-**30**
No Reply-**8**
No-**2**

Issues and Concerns

- Regulating business and concerns.
- Garbage and recycling.
- Publish outcomes.
- Enforcement of new codes.
- Plan of action.-**2**
- Volunteering.
- Encouraging businesses to clean up.
- Rights of property owners.
- Oakland Park needs more trees. (planting program)
- Houses of Worship. (churches)-**3**
- Welcome opportunity and follow through.
- Stop grandfathering in old things.
- More enforcement officers.
- Need a strong, sound ordinance.
- Noise.
- Need to announce workshops on water bills.
- Trash pick up.
- Permitting should be relaxed.
- Protect our swales.-**2**
- Ordinances.
- Overhead electric wires and cable phone lines.
- Need for buffering between residential and industrial areas.
- Timely manner.
- More participation from African Americans in leadership roles.
- More grandfathering.
- Gradual changes.
- Need Discussion of process to change ordinances and make changes.
- Great!
- Stay out of homeowners lives.
- Don’t worry about my lawn.