

## TOO TALL, TOO DENSE

I live in Verona Reserve, a small community of single-story homes. The property adjoining us was for sale, zoned single family. We invested much of our net worth in this house thinking that it was an excellent choice for our twilight years. We were shocked to learn that the **County of Sarasota** was awarding \$11.2M to One Stop Housing to erect four-story buildings with 135 units on land owned by the **Mayor of Venice** and his family, the Pachota's (owners of Sharky's and Fin's). What???? They are stating that this is affordable housing which I do not object to but it seems to me that we now have a glut of affordable housing around Venice with buildings offering multiple months free rent as incentives. Why not build tiny houses with a lease/purchase to truly help people with limited funds become homeowners? Isn't that profitable enough? The communities that surround this land are all single storied homes. The proposed buildings would loom over our houses, severely diminish their value, and seriously affect our quality of life. I worry about flooding, density, noise, light, and traffic since there is only access through Clermont a small, dead-end street. It is too dense and too tall for this location. This is happening all over Sarasota County. Say the magic words and the zoning rules go away. Shouldn't new housing blend in with surrounding neighborhoods? As home owners, tax payers and constituents our voices are not as loud as more powerful people in our community.

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