

News-Press

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River Hall development would harm wildlife

<http://www.news-press.com/story/opinion/readers/local/2016/10/05/mailbag-oct-6-reactions-dan-warner-obamas-popularity/91544162/>

River Hall should remain rural. Doubling the size of River Hall will make it suburban and all the area around it, including Alva, Olga, Bayshore, and Buckingham, would be hurt in that other developers would get the same privilege. All these areas in Lee County wish to remain rural. My concern is for the quality of life for the panthers, deer, turkey, caracara and other wild animals that inhabit the very land the developers wish to build near and sometimes right where these animals live. I have spoken personally to the people who live in back of this development and they have seen a mother panther and two kittens in this area. One resident of River Hall has even seen a panther in her backyard.

Another reason not to build on this land is that it is the only flatwood habitat left in this whole area. Developing these beautiful hardwoods and pinewoods would destroy this prime wildlife habitat forever.

When I was president of our Audubon of Southwest Florida club about five years ago, commissioner Frank Mann came to speak to us about keeping River Hall rural. At that time, our board voted to keep it rural. On behalf of our over 1,400 members, I ask you kindly not to change the rules on this density issue.

- Carl Veaux, Cape Coral