



May 22, 2020

Kimberleigh Dinkins, Senior Planner
Marion County Growth Services
Sent via electronic mail: Kimberleigh.Dinkins@marioncountyfl.org

Reference: Blitch Plantation Limited

Kim,

We would like to meet with you to discuss the above noted proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for an increase in the size of the existing Rural Activity Center and in particular, the request for a Special Use Permit on the property.

The Rural Activity Center designation is intended to promote mixed and commercial uses to reduce the need for vehicular trips to the urban area in order to meet the daily needs by people living in the vicinity. It is clear that the Special Use Permit application does not meet this intention with proposed uses like RV parking, event facilities, ATV racetrack, ATV sales and service facilities, paintball events, and other proposed activities not intended for a Rural Activity Center. As a quick internet search will confirm, these proposed uses have a long history of destroying rural neighborhoods, significantly reducing the quality of life of the neighbors, and negatively impacting property values.

As the surrounding properties have a Rural Land use and A-1 zoning designation, and are located within the Farmland Preservation Area, this Special Use Permit would corrupt the integrity of the neighborhood, and thus seems ill advised and without merit. The county's Farmland Preservation Area must be respected and protected.

We have respectfully advised the registered agent for Blitch Plantation that should his clients continue to pursue this Special Use Permit as currently proposed, Horse Farms Forever will use the full extent of its resources and relationships to stop it.

I look forward to a prompt meeting to discuss this matter before the planned public hearings.

Best regards,

President