MINUTES OF THE RURAL GOLDEN GATE ESTATES RESTUDY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 28, 2026 — 6:00 p.m.

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, that the Rural Golden Gate Estates Restudy Advisory Committee, in and for the County of Collier, Florida, having conducted business herein, met in Regular Session on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Max A. Hasse Jr. Community Park, 3390 Golden Gate Boulevard W., Naples, Florida, with the following members, staff, consultants, and participants present:

Committee Members Present:

Mark Teaters, Sr., Chair

Robert Raines, Vice Chair

Bruce Hamels

Michael Ramsey

Douglas Rankin, Alternate (serving in place of Kimberly Ellis)

Absent: Kimberley Ellis and Aaron Zwiefel, Alternate.

Also Present

Michael Bosi, Planning and Zoning Director; Michele Mosca, Staff Liaison; James Sabo, Planning Manager; Parker Klopf, Staff Liaison; Alexis Crespo and Patty Kulak, RVi Planning.

Jamie Cook, Development Review Director; Mike Shaw, Interim Emergency Management Director; Nolan Sapp, Public Safety Director; Lt. Ron Turi, Collier County Sheriff's Office; Eloy Ricardo, North Collier Fire Chief; Chris Wolfe, Greater Naples Fire Chief; Richard Esquerete, Collier County EMS; additional agency representatives and community participants.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Committee with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Teaters called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. A quorum was established. Alternate Douglas Rankin served in place of Kimberley Ellis.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.5-0

4. Approval of September 23, 2026 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 23, 2026 minutes. 5-0 During discussion, Michael Ramsey requested corrections to Item 7 concerning the Land Use Summary Presentation. He asked that the minutes reflect his question about findings developed without mathematical or statistical analysis and the consultant's explanation of her interpretation of qualitative information. Mr. Ramsey characterized the findings as including the consultant's opinion and requested that the exchange be recorded accurately.

Item #7Commercial Development Survey – Staff reviewed an earlier survey that received 22 responses. Approximately 57.1 percent of respondents opposed additional commercial development within the Estates. Michael Ramsey questioned whether some of the findings characterized as areas of agreement were sufficiently supported by the number of participants.

The Chair directed that the wording be checked against the prior meeting recording. The minutes were approved unanimously, subject to the requested corrections. The Chair stated that the revised minutes would be presented at the next meeting.

5. New Business

A. Natural Resources and Environment

Jamie Cook reviewed environmental and development requirements applicable to Golden Gate Estates. She explained that an approved residential building permit allows clearing of up to one acre and that additional clearing for approved uses requires a vegetation removal permit. Wetland impacts require authorization from the appropriate state agency, which the County verifies during its review.

Ms. Cook described enforcement of illegal dumping and coordination with Pollution Control when hazardous materials or waterways are involved. She reviewed state agency involvement in wildlife crossings and explained that stormwater must be directed to an appropriate swale or on-site retention area without flooding neighboring property.

Ms. Cook also reviewed Conservation Collier acquisitions and opportunities for public access and environmental education. Questions addressed preserve locations and signage, historically cleared properties, and handling cleared vegetation in borrow pits.

Participants expressed concern about development impacts on natural drainage, water quality, wildlife, and aquifer recharge. Frankie Hendrix offered to assist with conservation activities and guided tours. Staff identified the County's watershed management planning process as an avenue for addressing drainage concerns and explained that watershed studies are coordinated with the South Florida Water Management District.

North Golden Gate Estates Flowway Study

Michael Ramsey urged further investigation of the North Golden Gate Estates flowway and its potential to retain surface water and recharge the aquifer. The Committee discussed earlier recommendations of the East of 951 infrastructure committees and the effects of roads and canals on natural drainage.

Michael Ramsey made a motion to recommend further study of the North Golden Gate Estates restoration or flowway system for surface water management and aquifer recharge, consistent with the prior East of 951 committee recommendations. The motion was seconded. Motion approved unanimously.5-0

Natural Resources Breakout Session

Patty Kulak explained the public-engagement activities. Participants ranked eight natural resource priorities, marked concerns and potential improvements on maps, and reviewed three existing policies for suggested changes. Staff and consultants facilitated the table discussions.

B. Public Safety and Emergency Services

Transportation and Emergency Access

The Chair and Michele Mosca reviewed transportation planning maps showing existing and future roads, bridges, evacuation routes, shelters, and public safety facilities. Ms. Mosca relayed information from Transportation staff concerning reserved right-of-way for a portion of Big Cypress Parkway and identified the segment toward Interstate 75 that had not been acquired.

Emergency Management

Mike Shaw reviewed the County's emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation responsibilities. He described Emergency Operations Center coordination, disaster assistance, wildfire support, and the special needs registry for residents requiring additional assistance during emergencies.

Mr. Shaw encouraged residents to register for Alert Collier and use Everbridge for emergency notifications. Questions addressed location-based alerts, wildfire mitigation funding, and equipment or grant opportunities for volunteer amateur radio operators. Mr. Shaw offered to investigate potential funding opportunities.

Cellular Coverage and Emergency Communications

Michael Ramsey raised concerns about coverage gaps and public safety agencies' reliance on cellular service. Nolan Sapp described efforts to improve coverage, including prospective tower locations near DeSoto Boulevard and a temporary cellular unit at the DeSoto Boulevard and Golden Gate Boulevard station. He explained that additional facilities require coordination with providers and County planning staff.

Mr. Ramsey advocated a coordinated coverage study and planned tower locations, particularly east of Everglades Boulevard, rather than individual approvals without an overall coverage plan. Residents also raised concerns about deteriorating landlines and communications during disasters. The Chair indicated that the tower-planning issue could receive further discussion.

Collier County Sheriff's Office

Lt. Ron Turi reviewed patrol operations, staffing, and growth planning for the Golden Gate Estates district. He discussed construction-related theft, traffic enforcement, commercial vehicle enforcement, and future substation needs. In response to questions, he acknowledged plans for additional substations but did not confirm specific locations or completion dates.

Participants questioned the use of automated license plate readers, access to vehicle information, safeguards against mistaken identification, and accountability for database searches. Lt. Turi described the readers as investigative tools and explained that access requires an authorized purpose, supporting documentation, and auditing. He distinguished visible license plates from restricted owner information and stated that investigators must corroborate information before taking enforcement action.

North Collier Fire Rescue

Chief Eloy Ricardo discussed the effects of growth on fire protection, road access, water supply, and emergency response. He identified traffic congestion, limited road connections, and infrastructure lagging development as operational concerns. He reviewed coordination among fire districts, EMS, the Sheriff's Office, and the Florida Forest Service, including use of the closest available emergency resources.

Chief Ricardo described efforts to improve cellular coverage, address hazardous vegetation and dumping on vacant lots, and provide wildfire training. Residents questioned differing fire district tax rates and backup communications. He discussed potential funding changes to address tax disparities and confirmed that backup radio systems are maintained.

Greater Naples Fire Rescue

Chief Chris Wolfe reviewed service coverage, facilities, and the benefits of Station 74 in the eastern Estates. He described expanded coverage within five road miles of a station and increasing call activity in the area. In response to questions, he reported that medical calls account for approximately 80 percent of calls districtwide and that average response time is approximately six to seven minutes districtwide.

Chief Wolfe discussed wildfire fuel reduction, evacuation access, public education, backup communications, and the importance of the Sheriff's Office aviation support. Questions also addressed replacement brush trucks and equipment capable of high-water evacuation. A Committee member recommended supporting additional Sheriff's Office aviation resources for wildfire response.

Collier County Emergency Medical Services

Richard Esquerete discussed challenges associated with growth, simultaneous calls, traffic, hospital transport distances, and delays returning ambulances to service. He noted that Station 74 has improved coverage and described coordination with fire districts providing advanced life support and hospitals working to reduce patient transfer delays.

In response to a question about a potential hospital serving Ave Maria, Chief Esquerete said hospitals had sought information about community needs, but no timeline was available.

Public Safety Breakout Session

Michele Mosca directed participants to review the public safety materials and maps at their tables. A further breakout session began to gather input on emergency access and related public safety issues.

6. Deferred Business

Earlier in the meeting, the Chair announced that the remaining business would be postponed to November 18, 2026, because of the time available.

7. Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2026.

8. Adjournment

Following completion of the final breakout session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

RURAL GOLDEN GATE ESTATES RESTUDY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mark Teaters, Sr., Chair: _____

These minutes approved by the Committee on _____As presented _____ or as amended _____