

UPDATE ON VALKARIA AIRPORT MASTER PLAN

MAY 17 – Valkaria Airport Master Plan County Commission Workshop – CANCELLED

The County Commission voted on May 10 to re-schedule the workshop in July. The Master Plan was to be approved or rejected by the County Commission at this workshop.

After presentations from many residents and discussion at the May 9 Town Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to send a statement to the County Commission rejecting the Valkaria Airport Master Plan generated by FIT for many reasons, among those:

1. The Master Plan includes projects the County Commission promised would not be there:
 - Commercialization
 - Night flights
 - Runway lights
 - Touch and go activity
2. Efforts by the County or FIT to officially include and inform the Town during the development of the Master Plan County were non-existent.
3. The Town is not given consideration as a jurisdictional entity in the final draft of the Master Plan.
4. The County has ignored the Town's numerous requests for representation on the Valkaria Airport Advisory Board.
5. FIT was issued a Cease and Desist order by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. It was determined that FIT is not licensed to perform the services described in the Contract and Scope of Services.

County Commissioner Helen Voltz was in attendance at the May 9 Town Council meeting and heard the many objections the Town had to the Master Plan as it currently exists.

Residents also informed the Town Council and Commissioner Voltz that the Airport Rules Ordinance with respect to touch-and-go operations and helicopter flight patterns were not being enforced by the airport manager.

We will keep you informed on this issue.