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After Developer Warns of “Worse Alternatives,” Royal Oak Residents Say: Bring on the Cows



Bernie, a 12-pound mini Aussie Doodle, “stands with the cows” in a satirical image shared by Royal Oak residents to highlight concerns about fear-based framing in a proposed rezoning of the former Royal Oak Golf Course.

TITUSVILLE, FL — January 19, 2026 — Residents of the Royal Oak community today announced the launch of the **Royal Oak Cowmunity Plan**, a satirical but pointed response after a Kolter Group representative suggested that rejecting the proposed rezoning of the former Royal Oak Golf Course could lead to “worse alternatives,” including a homeless shelter, a cemetery, or a working farm with cows, sheep, and pigs.

In response, residents leaned into the most unexpected of those warnings.

A photo circulating with the announcement shows Bernie standing proudly with a group of cows beneath a sign reading “I Stand With the Cows.” The image has gained traction among residents and on social media, symbolizing what organizers say is the absurdity of framing permanent land-use decisions through fear rather than facts.

“The cows are funny,” organizers said, “but the issue is serious.”

Residents say the remark about “worse alternatives” underscores a broader concern: that the community is being pressured to support a permanent Future Land Use change by being warned of extreme or unlikely outcomes, rather than being asked to evaluate the proposal based on zoning consistency, stormwater function, and long-standing neighborhood expectations.

“The developer knew exactly how this land was zoned when they pursued buying it,” residents said in a joint statement. “That obligation to respect zoning is no different from what homeowners are required to do every day.”

What began as a moment of disbelief has quickly become visible throughout the neighborhood. Yard signs referencing the Cowmunity Plan have appeared across Royal Oak, and residents have shared images and posts using humor to call attention to what they view as fear-based messaging in the rezoning debate.

While the Cowmunity Plan is intentionally lighthearted, organizers emphasize that its purpose is to highlight serious planning concerns, including stormwater management, environmental constraints, infrastructure impacts, and the permanence of Future Land Use decisions.

“We’re not saying cows are the answer,” organizers said. “We’re saying fear isn’t a planning strategy. Decisions of this magnitude deserve honesty, accuracy, and time.”

The **Royal Oak Cowmunity Plan** is a resident-led, non-partisan initiative using satire to encourage transparent, fact-based discussion of land-use policy affecting the Royal Oak community.

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