

CHAPTER 2021-195

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 59

An act relating to growth management; amending s. 163.3167, F.S.; specifying requirements for certain comprehensive plans effective, rather than adopted, after a specified date and for associated land development regulations; amending s. 163.3177, F.S.; requiring local governments to include a property rights element in their comprehensive plans; providing a statement of rights which a local government may use; requiring a local government to adopt a property rights element by the earlier of its adoption of its next proposed plan amendment initiated after a certain date or the next scheduled evaluation and appraisal of its comprehensive plan; prohibiting a local government's property rights element from conflicting with the statement of rights contained in the act; amending s. 163.3237, F.S.; providing that the consent of certain property owners is not required for development agreement changes under certain circumstances; providing an exception; amending s. 337.25, F.S.; requiring the Department of Transportation to afford a right of first refusal to certain individuals under specified circumstances; providing requirements and procedures for the right of first refusal; amending s. 380.06, F.S.; authorizing certain developments of regional impact agreements to be amended under certain circumstances; providing retroactive applicability; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 163.3167, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3167 Scope of act.—

(3) A municipality established after the effective date of this act shall, within 1 year after incorporation, establish a local planning agency, pursuant to s. 163.3174, and prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan of the type and in the manner set out in this act within 3 years after the date of such incorporation. A county comprehensive plan is controlling until the municipality adopts a comprehensive plan in accordance with this act. A comprehensive plan for a newly incorporated municipality which becomes effective ~~adopted~~ after January 1, 2016 ~~2019~~, and all land development regulations adopted to implement the comprehensive plan must incorporate each development order existing before the comprehensive plan's effective date, may not impair the completion of a development in accordance with such existing development order, and must vest the density and intensity approved by such development order existing on the effective date of the comprehensive plan without limitation or modification.

Section 2. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (6) of section 163.3177, Florida Statutes, to read:

163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.—

(6) In addition to the requirements of subsections (1)-(5), the comprehensive plan shall include the following elements:

(i)1. In accordance with the legislative intent expressed in ss. 163.3161(10) and 187.101(3) that governmental entities respect judicially acknowledged and constitutionally protected private property rights, each local government shall include in its comprehensive plan a property rights element to ensure that private property rights are considered in local decisionmaking. A local government may adopt its own property rights element or use the following statement of rights:

The following rights shall be considered in local decisionmaking:

1. The right of a property owner to physically possess and control his or her interests in the property, including easements, leases, or mineral rights.

2. The right of a property owner to use, maintain, develop, and improve his or her property for personal use or for the use of any other person, subject to state law and local ordinances.

3. The right of the property owner to privacy and to exclude others from the property to protect the owner’s possessions and property.

4. The right of a property owner to dispose of his or her property through sale or gift.

2. Each local government must adopt a property rights element in its comprehensive plan by the earlier of the date of its adoption of its next proposed plan amendment that is initiated after July 1, 2021, or the date of the next scheduled evaluation and appraisal of its comprehensive plan pursuant to s. 163.3191. If a local government adopts its own property rights element, the element may not conflict with the statement of rights provided in subparagraph 1.

Section 3. Section 163.3237, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3237 Amendment or cancellation of a development agreement.—A development agreement may be amended or canceled by mutual consent of the parties to the agreement or by their successors in interest. A party or its designated successor in interest to a development agreement and a local government may amend or cancel a development agreement without securing the consent of other parcel owners whose property was originally subject to the development agreement, unless the amendment or

cancellation directly modifies the allowable uses or entitlements of such owners' property.

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 337.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.25 Acquisition, lease, and disposal of real and personal property.

(4) The department may convey, in the name of the state, any land, building, or other property, real or personal, which was acquired under subsection (1) and which the department has determined is not needed for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a transportation facility. When such a determination has been made, property may be disposed of through negotiations, sealed competitive bids, auctions, or any other means the department deems to be in its best interest, with due advertisement for property valued by the department at greater than \$10,000. A sale may not occur at a price less than the department's current estimate of value, except as provided in paragraphs (a)-(d). The department may afford a right of first refusal to the local government or other political subdivision in the jurisdiction in which the parcel is situated, except in a conveyance transacted under paragraph (a), paragraph (c), or paragraph (e). Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, before any conveyance under this subsection may be made, except a conveyance under paragraph (a) or paragraph (c), the department shall first afford a right of first refusal to the previous property owner for the department's current estimate of value of the property. The right of first refusal must be made in writing and sent to the previous owner via certified mail or hand delivery, effective upon receipt. The right of first refusal must provide the previous owner with a minimum of 30 days to exercise the right in writing and must be sent to the originator of the offer by certified mail or hand delivery, effective upon dispatch. If the previous owner exercises his or her right of first refusal, the previous owner has a minimum of 90 days to close on the property. The right of first refusal set forth in this subsection may not be required for the disposal of property acquired more than 10 years before the date of disposition by the department.

(a) If the property has been donated to the state for transportation purposes and a transportation facility has not been constructed for at least 5 years, plans have not been prepared for the construction of such facility, and the property is not located in a transportation corridor, the governmental entity may authorize reconveyance of the donated property for no consideration to the original donor or the donor's heirs, successors, assigns, or representatives.

(b) If the property is to be used for a public purpose, the property may be conveyed without consideration to a governmental entity.

(c) If the property was originally acquired specifically to provide replacement housing for persons displaced by transportation projects, the department may negotiate for the sale of such property as replacement

housing. As compensation, the state shall receive at least its investment in such property or the department's current estimate of value, whichever is lower. It is expressly intended that this benefit be extended only to persons actually displaced by the project. Dispositions to any other person must be for at least the department's current estimate of value.

(d) If the department determines that the property requires significant costs to be incurred or that continued ownership of the property exposes the department to significant liability risks, the department may use the projected maintenance costs over the next 10 years to offset the property's value in establishing a value for disposal of the property, even if that value is zero.

(e) If, at the discretion of the department, a sale to a person other than an abutting property owner would be inequitable, the property may be sold to the abutting owner for the department's current estimate of value.

Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 380.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.06 Developments of regional impact.—

(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT ORDER.—

(d) Any agreement entered into by the state land planning agency, the developer, and the local government with respect to an approved development of regional impact previously classified as essentially built out, or any other official determination that an approved development of regional impact is essentially built out, remains valid unless it expired on or before April 6, 2018, and may be amended pursuant to the processes adopted by the local government for amending development orders. Any such agreement or amendment may authorize the developer to exchange approved land uses, subject to demonstrating that the exchange will not increase impacts to public facilities. This paragraph applies to all such agreements and amendments effective on or after April 6, 2018.

Section 6. The Legislature finds and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor June 29, 2021.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 29, 2021.