

# Loxahatchee Groves

**Rural Vista Committee**



**Guidelines for  
Loxahatchee Groves'  
Non-Residential  
Projects**

**Loxahatchee Groves Landowners  
Association**

**RURAL VISTA COMMITTEE**

Doreen Baxter  
Rob Crawford  
Dennis Lipp  
Rita Miller  
Jerry Sacoulas

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# Rural Vista

## Loxahatchee Groves.

This community has endured for nearly a century. Protecting the lifestyle in areas designated rural residential encompasses protecting watersheds and water supplies; wilderness and scenic areas; conservation areas and wildlife. Our rural/residential neighborhood accepts a variety of activities and land-uses that require non-urban locations. Non-residential projects should share our definition and keep development in line with neighborhood goals.

The following is a list of ideas, ideals and descriptions that define the rural nature of Loxahatchee Groves.

### UNIQUE IDENTITY:

A live and let live attitude pertains to the way we treat our neighbors as well as the native tree canopy and eco-system. Our one/two lane dirt roads help preserve the agricultural/residential identity.

### UNITY:

We all moved here for the same reason - ITS RURAL ! Loxahatchee Groves provides a transition of land uses from eastern urban sprawl and congestion, to western agricultural and conservation areas.

### SECURITY & PRIVACY:

Loxahatchee Groves' population density of one family unit per 5 or 10 acres results in fewer cars and less traffic. Our one/two lane dirt roads discourage non-resident visitors. Our community is a refuge from the hectic urban east. We have the only Nudist Camp, Sun Sport, in the county.

### INDEPENDENT:

Loxahatchee Groves does not provide traditional city government. Fewer services, i.e sewer & water, keep taxes down.

### HISTORY:

Loxahatchee is Seminole and means "Turtle Creek". Settled by pioneers in 1917, our rural/ country lifestyle has endured.

### VARIETY:

The variety of activities that diversify our community include: equestrian; farming; animal husbandry; gardening; fishing; bird watching; nature trails; small home-based businesses; aviaries; and arts & crafts studios.

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## VISION

The essential foundation of beauty in Loxahatchee Groves is harmony with nature and the preservation of the native tree canopy. It is the intent of this committee to achieve a pleasant and unified character in our (non-residential) development. Non-residential enterprises in Loxahatchee Groves must meet the standards set by the residents and serve the needs of the neighborhood.

## **MISSION**

Maintaining rural character, balance of land use and lifestyle are some of the goals of the Loxahatchee Groves Land-owners Association (L. G. L. A.). In order to help preserve and define our rural character, the L.G.L.A. established the Rural Vista Committee. If development occurs, the residents of Loxahatchee Groves would like to see well-planned, thoughtful design concepts that will maintain our rural nature.

## **SCOPE**

All proposed non-residential development within Loxahatchee Groves will be evaluated for compatibility and consistency with rural character as defined herein. The Rural Vista Committee determines if the intentions of the developer are actually achieved in the proposed project. The developer's deed to the land upon which the project will be constructed shall be restricted solely to building the project which has been approved by the Rural Vista Committee.

## **DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN STANDARDS:**

It is our desire that non-residential projects serve the needs of the immediate neighborhood. Developments of regional impact (D. R. I.'s) such as warehouse distribution centers, truck stops, amusement parks, department stores, etc. are not acceptable in Loxahatchee Groves. We wish to promote a lifestyle which reflects rural character. All projects shall have a similar architectural treatment on all sides. Planning projects around the existing tree canopy will preserve the natural beauty of this eco-system. Building designs should be residential in scale and reflect rural character, such as, Colonial, Victorian, Farmhouse, Rustic and Bungalow (see Appendix A). Pedestrian amenities such as walkways, porches, benches and boardwalk's are desirable features in any proposed project. These amenities will provide a common thread that will define Loxahatchee Groves' southern boundary.

# Projects with Rural Character



## Projects with Rural Character



# Projects with Rural Character



## Projects with Rural Character

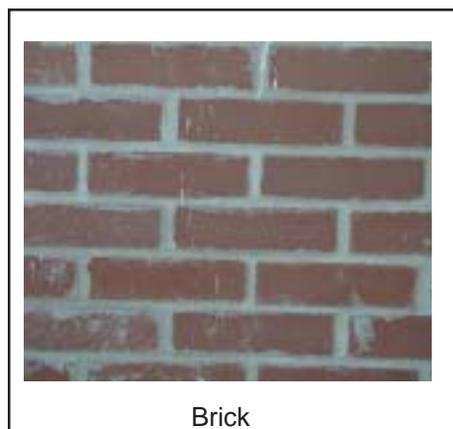
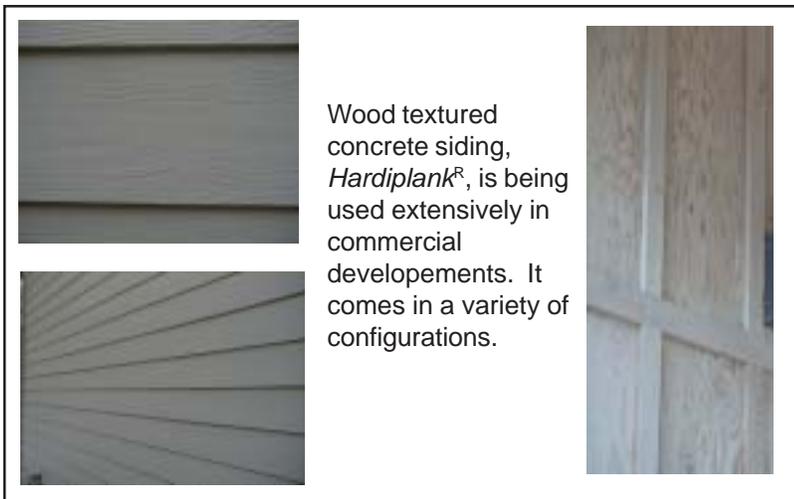


# Exteriors

## DESIGN DETAILS & BUILDING MATERIALS:

Acceptable materials include finished wood ( painted or stained) or materials which have a wood appearance such as, cement based fiberglass wood textured products (Hardiplank<sup>®</sup>); brick or brick veneer; and wood textured metal siding. Other approved materials are stone and tinted textured concrete masonry (Cemplank<sup>®</sup>). All wood exposed to the weather shall be of high quality and properly finished to prevent rotting. Siding pattern may be rough or smooth horizontal planks, 6 in. Lap siding, shingles or vertical board and batten. Trim shall be 4" or 6" at the corners, windows and doors. Large walls or walls of 2 story height shall have breaks (i.e. canopy, molding, overhang, balcony, banding or projections) approximate 10 feet above grade. Non-residential projects must be built to human and residential scale. HUMAN SCALE is a structure's proportions that relates directly to its use by a person, i.e. door size, etc. RESIDENTIAL SCALE is the use of materials, proportions and massing of a structure that is used in traditional housing.

The following photographs are examples of design details that the Rural Vista Committee endorses. Use of these in non-residential developments in Loxahatchee Groves is encouraged.



# Roofs & Roofing Materials

All structures shall have either a hip, gambrel, mansard, a.k.a. hip on deck roof, (See Appendix C). Dormers and Cupolas are encouraged. When designing small, multiuser projects, distinguishing one business from the next can be accomplished with breaks in the roof design. Roof proportion and pitch shall be relative to Residential Scale. Hip on Deck roofs must be a minimum height of 3 feet to a maximum of 8 feet. The pitch of the Hip on Deck roof may vary between 30° to 60°. Roof mounted equipment must be hidden from view. The roof must work as a parapet to screen mechanicals. Acceptable roofing materials include: metal shingle; standing seam sheet metal; corrugated sheet metal; 5-V crimp metal and copper. Metal roofs may be unpainted or painted (a color approved by the Rural Vista Committee - see Appendix B: Color Chart). Box-shaped exposed flat roofs, concrete, flat clay and barrel tile roofs are not permitted.



The roofs on these structures are examples of Hip on Deck roof styles.



Adding dormers and changing the roof line adds character to buildings.



Combination Gambrel & Mansard with Cupolas & Dormers

# Roofs & Roofing Materials



Breaking up the roof-line adds to the charm of these buildings.



Hip on Deck



Metal Shingle



Corrugated



Copper Shingle



5V Crimp



Metal Shingle



Standing Seam Sheet Metal



Standing Seam Sheet Metal

# Porches & Entryways

Entryways should be well defined with porches and railings. Porches must be a minimum of 8 ft. deep and of at least 150 square feet. Wooden railings with wood or wood textured, stone or brick columns provide continuity between projects and promote rural character. Porches with railings emphasize a building's entryway, inviting customers to come in. Porches also serve as a welcome refuge from sun and rain.



# Screening

SCREENING means the total (100%) masking out or concealing of any objectionable area. To achieve this, project developers can use fences with vegetation, planted mounds of earth or vegetation alone. The appearance achieved must be complementary to the whole. Concrete walls are prohibited due to their imposing, unfriendly nature.

## MECHANICAL & WASTE SCREENING:

Screening shall be employed to mask objectionable areas from public view whether freestanding or mounted on roofs or walls, outside equipment of unaesthetic character and accessory buildings or areas not enhancing or in keeping with the aesthetics of the project or neighborhood. Screening of air conditioning units and other mechanical equipment shall be accomplished in a manner that does not interfere with proper operation and/or maintenance of such equipment. Screening from view shall be on all sides and exceed the vertical height of the object by at least 6 inches. Equipment needing screening includes, but is not limited to: Storage areas, garbage or rubbish collection sites, dumpsters, air conditioning compressors, pool pumps, sprinkler pumps, electrical transformers, satellite dishes, antennas, compressors, generators, tanks, etc. Waste disposal areas shall not be located within 50 ft of any residential property.



Dumpster Shed

## PROPERTY SCREENS:

Buffering the rear of the project from the neighborhood can be accomplished with natural vegetation, berms and fences (no walls). Visual barriers between projects would interrupt the continuity of the landscape and are unacceptable.

# Signs

Decorative signs with raised lettering and/or with carved images are preferred. Low profile monument type signs are allowed with a maximum size of 50" high by 96" wide. Lighting of the sign will be with shielded direct lighting or "task" lighting, no neon signs. Billboard signs, bifold sandwich boards, posters on stakes and other types of temporary signage must be removed after business hours. The use of high-intensity, metallic, or fluorescent colors is prohibited. Backlit, Plexiglas signs of any type are not allowed. No advertising will be allowed on any exposed amenity or facility such as benches and trash containers. All signs, free standing or attached to building surfaces shall enhance rural design and character.



# Lighting

Aesthetic exterior lighting may be used to illuminate a building and its grounds for safety purposes. Lighting is not to be used as a form of advertising in a manner that is not compatible to the neighborhood or in a manner that draws considerably more attention to the building or grounds at night than in the day. Lights that following the form of the building or part of the building will not be allowed if the overall effect will be garish or detrimental to the environment.

Parking lot lighting on polls shall not exceed 20 feet. All exterior lighting must direct downward and be blinded to contain light within the project as much as possible.



Flag Pole Light



Pathway Light



# Parking

Parking must be configured to incorporate and preserve the maximum amount of existing native vegetation for shading and screening. Restricting the number of parking spaces and the liberal use of tree wells will aid in tree preservation. Serpentine, angled parking is preferred and can be planned around existing native vegetation. Limited grass parking as well as parking shared between projects will help to maintain our greenspace. Curbs or landscape timbers are required. Landscape brick, paver stone, grass block or stamped concrete, pedestrian walkways, benches, etc., should be incorporated into the design of the project.

The proposed non-residential buildings should comply with the following standards:

- No more than 2 rows of parking should be provided between the building and the roadway, and all additional parking spaces should be provided to the rear or side of the building;
- Encourage the use of trees and shrubs where applicable;
- To have maximum on-site tree preservation, the number of parking spaces shall be restricted to the minimum allowed for the use. (See pg. 4, **SCOPE**); and
- All parking lots and vehicular use areas shall be screened from all abutting residential properties with a landscaped fence, hedge or other durable vegetative landscape barrier.



Preserving the native tree canopy and providing places for cars to park is challenging. Although the grade of this parking area is higher than it was originally, thoughtful use of barriers have managed to keep portions of the parking area shaded with native old growth trees.



Liberal Use of Shrubbery & Trees

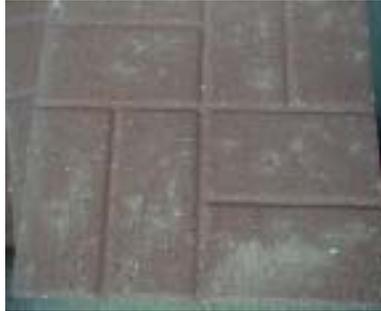
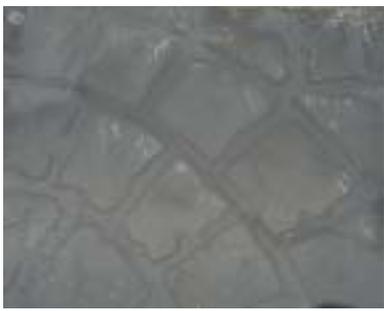


Parking Screens

# Parking and Pavers



Colored Pavers to Mark Parking Places



Stamped Concrete



Brick Pavers



Shaped Pattern Pavers



Grass Block

# Non-Vehicular Pathways and Pedestrian Amenities

## NON-VEHICULAR PATHWAYS:

For reasons of ecology and the preservation of community values, non-residential developers are to provide safe and attractive places for pedestrian, bicycle and equestrian traffic. Landscaped vistas and pedestrian amenities must be incorporated into each project. Roofed and landscaped bus stops, benches, fountains, etc., reflecting rural character shall be integrated into the pedestrian paths to the rear of each project as well as in front along the access road north of Southern Blvd. Oak, Pine and other native canopy trees shall be used in a natural pattern to landscape these paths at 4 trees to every 30 ft. In order to encourage safe non-vehicular travel, a pedestrian activated signal should be installed where warranted. All non-vehicular crossings should be well marked with advance warning signs and painted striping of the road pavement per County specification. Proper signage should be installed to emphasize speed limits and caution for pedestrian, bicycle and equestrian traffic. The pathway should have minimal negative impact in terms of environmental disturbance.



Bike Rack



Bus Stop



Drinking Fountain



Fountain



Tree Box-Bench

# Landscaping

Non-residential projects shall incorporate the existing vegetation into their design. Natural looking landscaped berms may be used for buffers where existing trees will not be disturbed. Foundation plants or grade level planters shall be provided along the front and sides of all structures. Trees must be planted in natural groupings, avoiding straight lines. Trees must be: #1 Preserved in place; #2 Relocated on site and #3 Replaced. Palm trees will not substitute for canopy trees since they do not provide the appearance and shade. Native canopy, under story, and groundcover landscape buffers between non-residential projects in Loxahatchee Groves are required and shall have 50 ft at minimum on the sides and 100 ft in the rear. Projects must be 100% opaque screened from residential properties using landscaping, landscaped fences or berms. The finished side of fences must face residential property. Installation of native tree canopy and under story is required where none exists to provide continuity between projects.



Tree Well

Trees and vegetation are credited with the following attributes: carbon dioxide absorption; oxygen production; dust filtration; wind and noise reduction; soil erosion prevention; beach erosion protection; wildlife habitat; surface drainage improvement; beautification and aesthetic enhancement of improved and vacant lands and the general promotion of the health, safety, welfare and well-being of the community.



Parking & Property Screens

# Landscaping & Setbacks



The native trees and undergrowth next to this fast food restaurant have been preserved. (See Appendix D for a listing of plants native to southern Florida.)



The use of landscape timbers forms a rustic barrier between the paved and native growth areas.



## SETBACKS:

To ensure a vibrant pedestrian-oriented business area, the aim is to cluster and front projects closer to Southern Blvd at the access road. The rear of the property will allow for a linked greenway system connecting each project. Conservation of the native tree canopy and understory is our primary concern.



Vegetation within parking areas should not obstruct a driver's vision.

# “Unacceptable’s”

The following pictures are of design elements that the Rural Vista Committee would not like to see in our community.



Long, thin windows or “Ribbon Windows”



Towers.



Arches and long colonades



Barrel Tiles



Uninteresting Roof Line  
Individuality of the stores is lost.



Backlit plexiglass signs



Flat Roofs



Unshielded lighting is disturbing to neighboring homes.



Unacceptable Hip on Deck  
Too Tall



Screening Needed



Too Contemporary

# Appendix A

This appendix contains examples of Colonial, Country, Bungalow, Farmhouse, Victorian and Rustic.



Colonial



Country



Bungalow



Farmhouse



Victorian



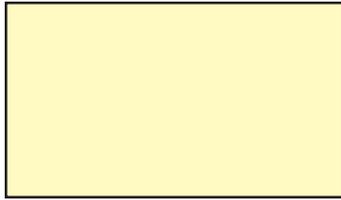
Rustic

# Appendix B

## Colors



Pantone 1215 CVP



Pantone 608 CVP



Pantone 600 CVP



Pantone 155 CVP



Pantone Grey 6 CVP



Pantone Grey 4 CVP



Pantone Gray 1 CVP



Pantone 454 CVP



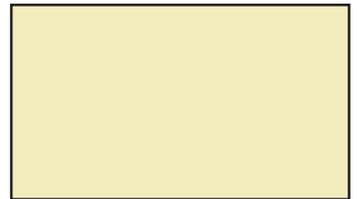
Pantone 467 CVP



Pantone 4665 CVP



Pantone 4685 CVP



Pantone 615 CVP



Pantone 105 CVP



Pantone 451 CVP



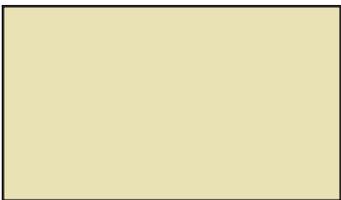
Pantone 3975 CVP



Pantone 3985 CVP



Pantone 4515 CVP



Pantone 4535 CVP



Pantone 4545 CVP



Pantone 728 CVP



Pantone 712 CVP



Pantone 5773 CVP



Pantone 5803 CVP



Pantone 5777



Pantone 5797 CVP



Pantone 730 CVP



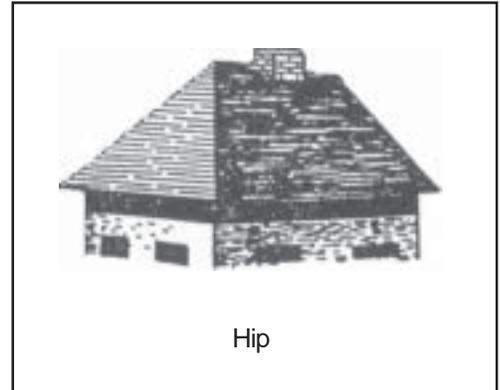
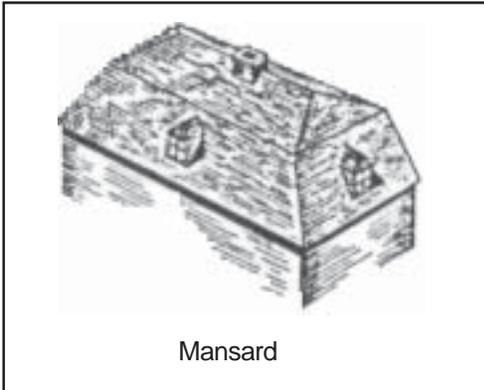
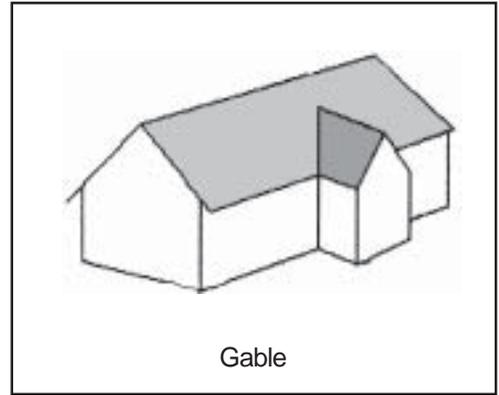
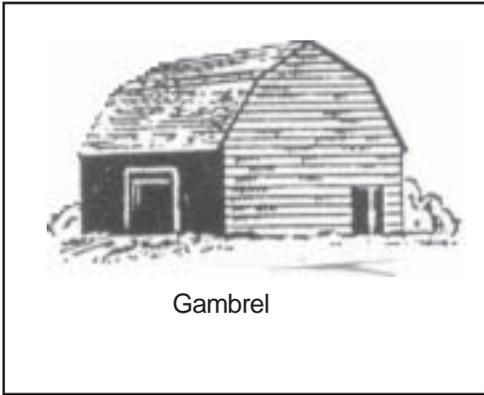
Pantone 726 CVP



Pantone 722 CVP

# Appendix C

Examples of roof designs: Hip, Gable, Gambrel, Mansard, Hip on Deck.



# Appendix D

## VEGETATION NATIVE TO SOUTH FLORIDA

### LARGE TREES

Greater than 30' at maturity.  
30' setback from power lines

<u>Common/Botanical Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
Red Maple / <i>Acer rubrum</i>	35' - 50'
Gumbo Limbo / <i>Bursera simaruba</i>	40' - 60'
Pecan / <i>Carya illoinensis</i>	80' - 90'
Hackberry/Sugarberry / <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	60' - 80'
Satinleaf / <i>Chrysophyllum oliviforme</i>	30' - 40'
Green Buttonwood / <i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	30' - 50'
Strangler Fig / <i>Ficus aurea</i>	40' - 50'
Shortleaf Fig / <i>Ficus citrifolia</i>	40' - 50'
Loblolly Bay / <i>Gordonia lasianthus</i>	30' - 40'
Blolly / <i>Guapira discolor</i>	35' - 50'
American Holly / <i>Ilex opaca</i>	40' - 50'
Jacaranda / <i>Jacaranda acutifolia</i>	40' - 50'
Black Walnut / <i>Juglans nigra</i>	60' - 70'
Southern Red Cedar / <i>Juniperus silicicola</i>	30' - 40'
Sweet Gum / <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	70' - 80'
Tuliptree/Tulip Polpar / <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	70' - 80'
Wild Tamarind / <i>Lysiloma bahamensis</i>	40' - 50'
Southern Magnolia / <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	60' - 80'
Sweetbay Magnolia / <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	40' - 60'
Mastic Tree / <i>Masticodendron foetidsissimum</i>	45' - 70'
Red Mulberry / <i>Morus rubra</i>	40' - 50'
Black Gum/Tupelo / <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	50' - 90'
Redbay / <i>Persea borbonia</i>	50' - 60'
Slash Pine / <i>Pinus elliotii</i> var. "densa"	80' - 90'
North Florida Slash Pine / <i>Pinus elliotii</i> var. <i>elliottii</i>	80' - 90'
Spruce Pine / <i>Pinus glabra</i>	80' - 90'
Longleaf Pine / <i>Pinus palustris</i>	80' - 90'
Loblolly Pine / <i>Pinus taeda</i>	80' - 90'
Jamaican Dogwood / <i>Piscidia piscipula</i>	35' - 50'
Sycamore / <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	90' - 95'
Cherry Laurel / <i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	30' - 40'
Laurel Oak / <i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	60' - 80'
Shumard Oak / <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	90' - 95'
Live Oak / <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	50' - 60'
Coastal Plain Willow / <i>Salix caroliniana</i>	30' - 40'
Paradise Tree / <i>Simarouba glauca</i>	35' - 50'
West Indian Mahogany / <i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	35' - 60'
Bald Cypress / <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	40' - 90'
Florida Basswood/FL Linden / <i>Tilia floridiana</i>	30' - 70'
Winged Elm / <i>Ulmus alata</i>	65' - 75'
Florida Elm / <i>Ulmus americana</i> var. <i>floridana</i>	45' - 50'

### MEDIUM TREES

20' to 30' in height at maturity  
20' setback from powerlines

<u>Common/Botanical Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
Serviceberry/Shadbush / <i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	20' - 30'
Pitch Apple / <i>Clusia rosea</i>	25' - 30'
Hop Hornbeam / <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	25' - 30'
Redbud / <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	25' - 30'
White Fringe Tree / <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	20' - 25'
Pigeon Plum / <i>Coccoloba diversifolia</i>	25' - 30'
Seagrape / <i>Coccoloba uvifera</i>	20' - 30'
Flowering Dogwood / <i>Cornus florida</i>	25' - 30'
East Palatka Holly / <i>Ilex x attenuata</i>	20' - 30'
Dahoon Holly / <i>Ilex cassine</i>	25' - 30'
Yaupon Holly / <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	25' - 30'
Black Ironwood / <i>Krugiodendron ferreum</i>	20' - 30'
Chickasaw Plum / <i>Prunus angustifolia</i>	20' - 25'
Bluejack Oak / <i>Quercus Incana</i>	20' - 30'
Drake Elm / <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> 'Drake'	20' - 30'

### SMALL TREES

Less than 20' high at maturity  
Can be planted adjacent to power lines.

<u>Common/Botanical Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
Sweet Acacia / <i>Acacia farnesiana</i>	10' - 15'
Silver Buttonwood / <i>Conocarpus erectus</i> var. 'sericeus'	15' - 20'
Orange Geiger / <i>Cordia sebestena</i>	15' - 20'
Hawthorn / <i>Crataegus</i> spp.	15' - 20'
Coral Bean / <i>Erythrina</i> spp.	15' - 20'
Stoppers / <i>Eugenia</i> spp.	15' - 20'
Lignum Vitae / <i>Guaiacum sanctum</i>	15' - 20'
Witch Hazel / <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	15' - 20'
Flowering Crabapple / <i>Malus</i> spp.	15' - 20'
Wax Myrtle / <i>Myrica cerifera</i>	15' - 20'

### LARGE PALMS

Greater than 20' at maturity

<u>Common/Botanical Name</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Fron</u>
Paurotis/Everglades Palm / <i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i>	15' - 25'	5'
Royal Palm / <i>Roystonea regia</i>	50' - 70'	15'
Cabbage/Sabal Palm / <i>Sabal Palmetto</i>	45' - 70'	7'

### SMALL PALMS

Less than 20' height at maturity

<u>Common/Botanical Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
Silver Palm / <i>Coccothrinax argentata</i>	15' - 20'
Needle Palm / <i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i>	5' - 10'
Dwarf Palmetto / <i>Sabal Minor</i>	10' - 15'
Saw Palmetto / <i>Serenoa repens</i>	10' - 15'
Thatch Palm / <i>Thrinax</i> spp.	15' - 20'

# Appendix E

## Acceptable Businesses

Businesses which could be developed on the Southern Blvd corridor which would not require sewer and water.

### Retail

convenience store(w/o gas)  
restaurants (no fast food)  
florist  
video rental  
gourmet food store  
sports equipment  
coin shop  
gift shop  
auto parts  
accessories  
shoe store  
antiques  
music store  
kitchen appliances  
computer sales  
clothing store  
jewelers  
bicycle shop  
book store  
feed store  
hardware store  
bait & tackle  
office supplies  
craft/art supplies  
gun shop and range

### Services

banks  
day care center  
travel agent  
realtor  
fitness center  
accountant  
insurance  
financial services  
title company  
doctor's office  
optometrist  
chiropractic office  
orthopedic clinic  
veterinarian  
tailor  
printer  
copy service  
shoe repair  
photo studio  
dance studio  
family counselor  
lawyer

### Other

post office  
business office  
architect  
artist studio  
non profit organization  
newspaper office  
governmental office

# Appendix F

## Materials

### EXTERIOR CLADDING:

Stone  
Wood textured concrete horizontal lap siding  
Wood textured concrete simulated board and batten  
Wood horizontal lap siding  
    Cedar  
    Pine  
    PT Pine

Wood Board and Batten  
Textured Concrete Block (No Stucco)  
Brick

### WINDOW AND BUILDING TRIM:

4" or 6" Pine  
4" or 6" Cedar  
4" or 6" PT Pine

### ROOF CLADDING:

5V Crimp Sheet Metal  
Corrugated Sheet Metal  
Metal Shingle  
    Galvanized Steel  
    Copper  
Standing Seam Sheet Metal

### OUTSIDE LIGHTING:



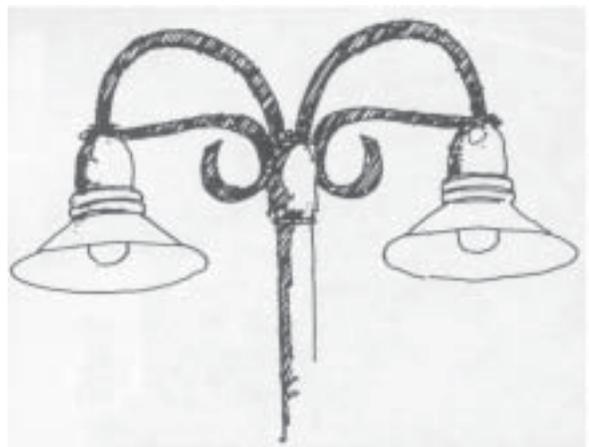
Street Lighting

### POSTS OR COLUMNS:

4" x 4", 6" x 6", 8" x 8", 10" x 10", 12" x 12"  
PT Pine  
Pine  
Cedar  
Concrete with simulated wood texture.

### Porch Railings:

Wooden  
Height of 42"



Street Lighting  
Dual Lamps