Kendall Federation of Homeowner Associations, Inc.

Serving the Greater Kendall Community since 1976

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Miami, Florida 33183

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"The Kendall Federation of Homeowner Associations Strongly *Opposes* BCC Approval of Zoning Application # Z2021000031 for this Proposed Development (aka Calusa Golf Course) on October 20, 2021"

The typical Calusa resident enjoys the sights and sounds of a vast array of wildlife that have called the 168 acres of the former Calusa Golf Course their home for so many years. Soon, though, the new sights and sounds will be hammering, bulldozers, and the endless noise of years of construction that will turn those 168 acres into a subdivision of one house on top of another.

In fact, 550 homes will be coming and we all know what that means: More cars on streets that already have an "F" rating for their traffic "report card"; more children for our overcrowded Calusa Elementary School; and unimaginable noise pollution during those years, culminating in the Calusa nightmare.

Calusa, *as we know it*, will be gone!!!

The former Miami-Dade County Commissioners, with less than **ONE month** left in their terms, in 2020, dealt this death blow to the Calusa Community. On October 20, 2021, **THIS YEAR**, the new Commission could finalize and validate that calamitous decision. If that happens, the Calusa we have loved for decades, is over!!

Fortunately, some dedicated Calusa citizens have battled for years to save Calusa. One such individual is **Amanda Prieto**. Amanda moved to Calusa three years ago from New Jersey. She had the option to move to any area of Miami-Dade County, but Calusa was her choice. The neighborhood experience offered by Calusa, a neighborhood that would create a lifetime of memories for her young children, all that Amanda wanted for her family, will not be realized by future generations of Calusa children if the approval for 550 homes happens on October 20th.

As one of the leaders of Save Calusa, Amanda has battled brilliantly to try and stop this madness from happening. With the help of her group, and with superb photo-documentation, **Amanda was able to prove** to Florida Fish and Wildlife that the Calusa Golf Course had a nesting home for threatened birds and convinced Florida Fish and Wildlife that this "Rookery" needed to be protected.

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Because of her work, not only is it protected, but **the Calusa Rookery is officially on the Florida Fish and Wildlife map of nesting, imperiled, wading bird colonies**.

Amazing work, Amanda, and your concern for our Calusa Community is exemplary! If only more of us had your energy and determination.

We have no idea what rare or endangered wildlife lives on this gem of 168 acres. Therefore, the Kendall Federation of Homeowner Associations ("KFHA") encourages the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners to defer this October 20, 2021 meeting until a true, in-depth study has been performed. While we might not be able to stop the end of Calusa as we know it, let's at least try to save whatever wildlife we can as it is clear that the developer did not have any intentions to do so.

The KFHA encourages **you** to contact our Commissioners and say, "Please defer this issue until you really know what treasures are living on the former Calusa Golf Course. Please ask the developer, GL Homes, to do their environmental homework before they destroy this wonderful habitat of 168 acres in the heart of Calusa".

Miles Moss, *KFHA External Vice President*

October 13, 2021