

Winter 2020

For those of you who have not been to Sanford, FL, in a while, you would be very surprised at all the development being done on Celery Avenue, the road to which The Homes is adjacent. In the two-mile stretch going east from our property, there were already four housing developments. Additionally, this road is used by many people commuting south or west from Deltona since it connects to the first road to the east of Lake Monroe. At times, especially in rush hour when a lot of our residents are trying to get to morning doctor appointments, it is very difficult to make a left-hand turn (heading west) out of The Homes property. Every year the problem gets worse, and some of our residents are finding it frustrating and dangerous.

Adding to this problem, along this same stretch, there are four more housing developments under construction. Yes, that's right, four new housing developments! Unfortunately, the city has no plans to widen the road, make turning lanes or install more stoplights.

We've concluded, for safety sake, that we need to construct another way to exit The Homes property. Happily, the southwest corner of our property is just a short distance from 1st Drive, and there is a space where we could install an electric gate. New concrete sections of road will need to be poured. Permits will be needed from the city and possibly from the St. Johns River Water Management District because we will be increasing water run-off.

We have decided to make construction of an automatic gate at the southwest corner of the property a priority for the '21-'22 volunteer season making it an official project so we can start gathering money towards it. \$40,000 or more will probably be needed to complete the project. If we have the necessary funds, we hope to construct the gate *this* volunteer season and then get the permits, extend the paving, and install the gate *next* season.

For those who would like to contribute to this project, an account has been opened at the Ethnos360 Finance Office. Designate all contributions for 'The Homes Southwest Gate.' More information and links for giving can be found on our web site, <u>www.homes.ethnos360.org</u>, or call 407-330-1505.

Brian Shortmeier. The Homes Director Exiting The Homes onto Celery Avenue

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