

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



FROM THE PRESIDENT



CHARLES PATTISON
FAICP, President

With foreclosures and unemployment skyrocketing in Florida in 2009, many called for a return to the “anything goes” approach to growth and development in an ill-advised attempt to jumpstart the economy. Recognizing that Florida’s problems are in large part due to its growth-based economy, 1000 Friends instead focused efforts in 2009 on advocating that the economic downturn be viewed as a painful but necessary opportunity to rethink Florida’s future.

With this in mind, 1000 Friends released *Why Florida Needs Smart Growth*, outlining how sustainable growth could provide a much-needed economic stimulus for Florida, and *Smart Growth for Florida’s Future*, calling for adoption of the proposed Florida Sustainable Communities Act. In a similar vein, 1000 Friends partnered with a host of state agencies and local partners to conduct workshops around the state on sustainability, transportation, climate change and public health, attracting more than 400 participants.

1000 Friends continued to advocate in the courts and the halls of the legislature, work with the media to generate informed coverage on issues, serve on state panels and boards, and promote workforce housing. In crucial victories for sustainability, the Governor and Cabinet sided with 1000 Friends of Florida to uphold urban development boundaries in both Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Counties. The Governor and Cabinet also supported two citizens, Susan Woods and Karen Reico, who successfully argued that a proposed Marion County development should be denied because of lack of need for the project.

Thanks to generous support from members and considerable belt-tightening, 1000 Friends weathered 2009 relatively well. We know that 2010 will prove even more challenging, and we hope we can count on your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Pattison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles Pattison, FAICP
President

The watercolors depicted in this report were presented to the recipients of 1000 Friends of Florida’s 2009 Better Community Awards. Since 1987, Quincy artist Dawn McMillan has been creating these beautiful paintings on behalf of 1000 Friends.



Smart Growth Coalition of North Central Florida — Community Steward Award for its visionary leadership on springs protection and smart growth issues facing North Central Florida.

HIGHLIGHTS

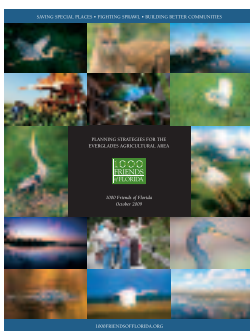
- Partnering with the Florida Departments of Transportation and Health, conducted workshops in Tallahassee, Orlando and Fort Lauderdale at which more than 400 participants explored linkages between community design, transportation, climate change and public health.
- Hosting the *Wakulla Springs Restoration Workshop* which attracted more than 150 participants and resulted in a tri-party memorandum of understanding between the City of Tallahassee and Leon and Wakulla Counties to work cooperatively on measures to limit nutrient pollution in the springshed and a \$60,000 request for proposals to explore regional wastewater management within the springshed basin.
- Conducting a day-long workshop in Jacksonville which focused on designing livable, sustainable communities.
- Supporting the retention of the Florida Department of Community Affairs as it underwent Sunset Review, and assisted in successfully fighting efforts to dramatically reduce the agency's budget.
- Working to improve the provisions in the controversial SB 360 which had the potential to open up thousands of acres of land to inappropriately dense development.
- Commenting on rulemaking for House Bill 697 which requires local comprehensive plans to include strategies to address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled.
- Providing input on the Department of Community Affairs rulemaking on "needs analysis" as a follow up to a successful challenge by two Marion County residents which resulted in the Governor and Cabinet upholding the requirement that a developer must prove the "need" for new development.
- Participating on the Mobility Fee Task Force, established by the Florida Departments of Community Affairs and Transportation to develop a workable alternative to transportation concurrency.
- Leading the Sadowski Housing Coalition in efforts to repeal the cap on the state and local housing trust funds and secure full appropriation of housing trust fund monies for housing. Due to the economic crisis neither of these priorities was achieved in 2009 so the Coalition began laying the groundwork for the 2010 legislative session.
- Providing assistance to attorneys around the state related to the preservation of mobile home parks as affordable housing, and successfully advocating for federal weatherization funds to be used to preserve affordable multifamily housing in Florida.
- Working with the Florida Housing Coalition and Department of Elder Affairs on an *Aging in Place Blueprint* to allow senior citizens to more easily stay in their homes as they age.
- Assisting with planning the Florida Housing Coalition's annual statewide conference, *The Route to Recovery*, held in Orlando.
- As a member of the Florida Forever Coalition, advocating for funding for the state's landmark land acquisition program.
- In partnership with the Florida Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club, filing three legal challenges regarding development orders issued by Palm Beach County for large-scale mining in the Everglades Agricultural Area.
- Lobbying the Governor and Cabinet to prevent the inappropriate expansion of the Miami-Dade County urban development boundary as a result of a suit filed by 1000 Friends, the National Parks Conservation Association, and the Florida Department of Community Affairs.
- Overcoming the "fairly debatable" standard and challenging two Palm Beach County comprehensive plan amendments which would have inappropriately converted rural lands for urban and suburban development. In yet another victory for urban development boundaries, the Governor and Cabinet sided with 1000 Friends and Rosa Durando and unanimously ordered the County to rescind the two amendments.
- Securing editorial coverage and lobbying the Governor and Cabinet in support of two citizens, Susan Woods and Karen Reico, who successfully argued that a proposed Marion County development should be denied because of lack of need for the project.
- Opposing sweeping changes to Martin County's comprehensive plan that, among other things, would allow inappropriate clustered development in rural areas.
- Participating in the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties' Digital Public Square which provides an interactive forum for community conversation, collaboration and outreach on pressing issues facing county residents.
- Monitoring proposals to locate an Inland Port at various rural South Florida sites that could impact the Everglades and restoration efforts, and local comprehensive plans.
- Participating in a series of "River of Grass" meetings sponsored by the South Florida Water Management District to identify alternative scenarios for Everglades restoration in light of reduced land acquisition ability.
- Seeing *Disaster Mitigation for Historic Structures*, produced in cooperation with the Florida Department of State's Division of Historical Resources and the Division of Emergency Management, receive the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation's Outstanding Achievement Award in Preservation Education.
- Presenting Community Steward Awards to Chad Taylor of Jackson County, the Lee County Board of County Commissioners, and the Smart Growth Coalition of North Central Florida, and honoring Kimco Realty Corporation's SoDo mixed use project in downtown Orlando with 1000 Friends' Better Community Award.
- Continuing to receive Charity Navigator's prestigious four-star rating, indicating that "1000 Friends executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way, and outperforms most other charities in America."



Why Florida Needs Smart Growth
This series of essays by some of Florida's leading developers, conservationists and others, explores how smart growth can play a meaningful role in the state's economic recovery.



Smart Growth for Florida's Future
Produced in cooperation with the state's major conservation and planning organizations, this report outlines the need for adoption of the proposed Florida Sustainable Communities Act to limit sprawl and promote infill development.

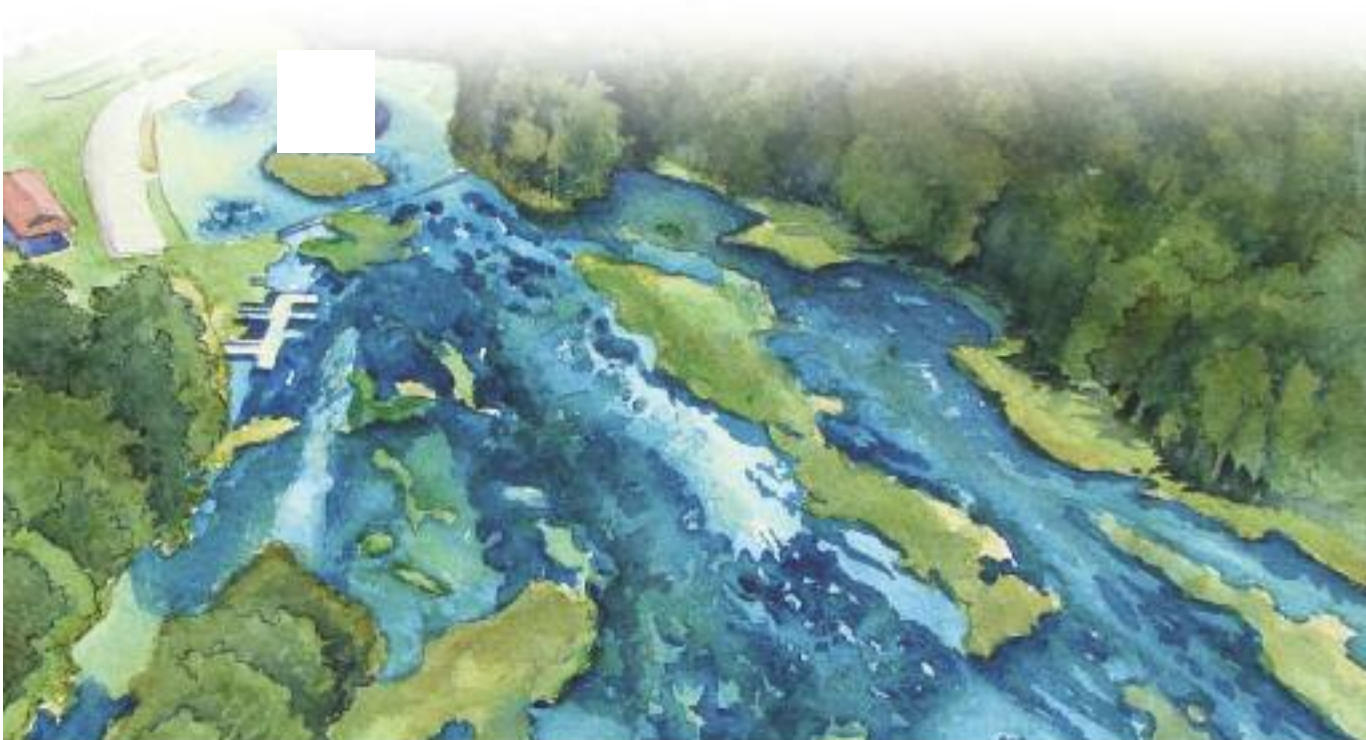


Planning Strategies for the Everglades Agricultural Area
1000 Friends identifies strategies that local, regional, state and federal leaders can use to address immediate planning threats to the Everglades Agricultural Area, promote better regional planning threats, and develop sustainable economic development strategies for the region.



Lee County Board of County Commissioners — Community Steward Award for its leadership, planning and implementation of plans related to the Density Reduction/Groundwater Resource area.

Each of these reports can be found at www.1000friendsofflorida.org.



Chad Taylor, Jackson County — Community Steward Award for his inspirational advocacy on springs protection, land use planning, and environmental protection in Jackson County and northwest Florida.

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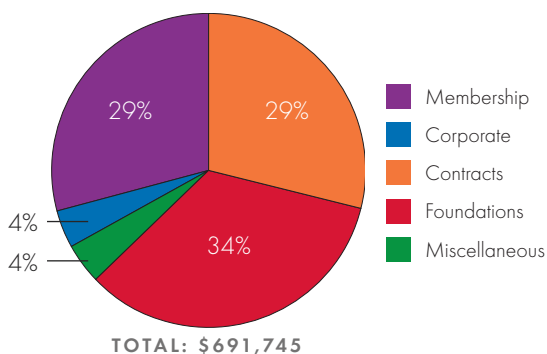
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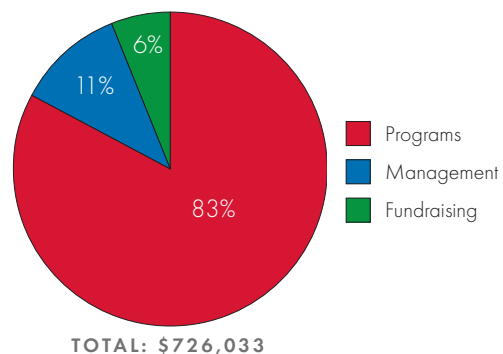
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ON THE COVER

SoDo, Orlando — Better Community Award for Kimco Realty Corporation’s innovative, mixed use redevelopment in an urban area.