

Statement from Rev. James T. Golden:

The proposal to increase the housing density in an area that abuts the Braden River and that is otherwise surrounded by two neighborhoods of far less density is not something I would support.

Moreover, it would appear that this area is the last natural habitat of unique flora and fauna that, if displaced by new development, would probably become problematic for the currently existing neighborhoods.

This new development would also significantly increase the problems inherent with excessive development: additional traffic congestion, increased school population, greater infrastructure needs, more police and fire protection, just to name a few.

I would also support your effort to turn this area into a conservation district.

Moreover, if there is not already one, I would support a comprehensive conservation policy for our county and our region.

As a former City of Bradenton representative to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, I believe that we could and should develop a regional collaborative approach to resource conservation and habitat preservation.

Moreover, I would strongly advocate for the use of existing available state funding for environmental purposes to pay for this effort.

Sincerely,

Rev. James T. Golden, Esq.
Candidate
Florida House - District 73