Senator Kathleen Passidomo

Representative Bob Rommel

Representative Lauren Melo

Representative Adam Botana

Recognizing the many issues facing you, the Collier Citizens Council asks you to consider three issues as priorities in the upcoming session.

**Waterways/Water Bodies** – Our CCC has focused on water and water quality in the last year. Our research and discussions have informed that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has not established limits for Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphorus or Nitrogen in water bodies across the state. We recognize that there are very diverse water bodies from spring fed fresh water to brackish to sea water at our shores. It is important that there be established limits to guide all local governments in addressing water quality in their production, treatment and enforcement of this most important necessity for our future.

**Water Treatment** – Several of our members have undertaken a study of nutrient load in our waterways. There is overwhelming evidence that the utilization of recycled water is contributing to low levels of oxygen in our waterways. Establishing phosphorous limits on effluents of water treatment plants would resolve this impact on oxygen in our water bodies. This can be treated by upgrading water treatment facilities to advanced water treatment and removing phosphorous from the recycled water.

**Home Rule** – Our organization is principally engaged in local issue identification and research. We thus are passionate about Home Rule. We believe that most issues are best addressed by that government entity closest to the people. For those reasons we encourage you to examine carefully the situations identified by your colleagues in their respective districts and evaluate the impact on Collier County in all of your votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Lyster, President

Collier Citizens Council