

September 12, 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REPRESENTATIVE MATT CALDWELL'S LETTER OF CLARIFICATION

[LEHIGH ACRES, FL] Representative Matt Caldwell has written a letter to the Board of Commissioners at LAMSID that clarified his intent with legislation and his position on the signage referendum. This legislation abolished East County Water Control District and created the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. It also allowed for certain potential powers to be gained after an agreement with the Board of County Commissioners at Lee County is reached and a referendum is passed.

The Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District is seeking signage powers in the November 6, 2018 election via a referendum vote. The signage powers would allow the District to install, maintain, and control outdoor signage, monuments, and decorative and seasonal banners and lights within District boundaries in Lehigh Acres. An example of such signs would be the Welcome to Lehigh Acres sign at Homestead Road and Lee Blvd (The Cookie).

LAMSID was given the ability to pursue additional powers via legislation Chapter 2015-202 F.S. in 2015 in a bill sponsored by Rep. Caldwell. The first step to gaining additional powers is to enter into an agreement with Lee County Commissioners, the agency currently providing these services. An agreement was approved on June 5, 2018. The next step is a referendum vote of the people. The referendum has to pass in the November election for specified signage powers to transfer to LAMSID.

There has been some confusion as to what the referendum will mean for Lehigh Acres. In a letter from Representative Matt Caldwell to the Board, he clarified what was intended when the legislation was created, as he was an author and champion of it. In his letter, he states that the "portion of the law authorizing signage powers did not envision regular street sign power, rather it was focused on signage relevant only to Lehigh Acres". He goes on to explain that the regulation of street signs is a function of the Lee County government. Representative Caldwell ended his letter by giving his support to LAMSID in the referendum vote.

For more information, please go to the District's website, www.la-msid.com, and click on the Signage Referendum tab.

Lehigh Acres MISD is a multi-county, multifaceted Special District Agency. From roads and bridges, to a stormwater management system comprised of lakes, canals, and complex monitoring equipment; to parks and passive recreation, to community projects, the Board of Commissioners guides the agency in a direction best suited to help the communities in which it serves—making it the vehicle for the future of Lehigh Acres. LA-MSID is dedicated to preserving and managing natural and community resources by providing: safe, reliable, and high-quality services to its constituents in an environmentally and financially responsible manner.

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