

October 5, 2019

Synopsis of Mims Community Group Meeting on October 3, 2019

Thank you to everyone who attended this special meeting. Good to see you.

Our speaker for this meeting was Florida State Representative Rene Plasencia. The purpose of the meeting was for Mr. Plasencia to understand our extreme concern about potential future annexation of Mims property by the city of Titusville. Another purpose was for him to discuss possible options to prevent such annexation. After many questions, it seemed clear that more information is needed. Representative Plasencia said he would find answers to audience questions and will send them to me to email to you.

Representative Plasencia did discuss the lack of success that a group of Orange County residents have had in incorporating their area into a city to prevent annexation. We would probably face similar difficulties. In addition, incorporation could create a new set of problems for us to deal with. There are Special Districts that could be created by the Legislature, but they are oriented towards new development and developers and would not work for the existing Mims community. Representative Plasencia said he would consult with others to see if there might be some new solution.

Annexation is a process that definitely favors cities. Property owners of property immediately adjacent to property being annexed are, by state statute, not considered "Parties Affected." Some members of the audience remembered when, in 1963, Indian River City and Whispering Hills became part of Titusville, without a vote of the residents. Due to the large audience and evident interest in keeping the Mims community separate from Titusville, I will invite other speakers for this subject.

Ron Bartcher
President, Mims Community Group