Subject: Proximity

Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2020 15:47:05 -0400From: John Saxton ctclink@cfl.rr.comTo: Marisa.Button@floridahousing.org

As one whose career is to find suitable properties for tax credit developers, I agree with the goal of reducing the number of tie scores and further agree that modifying proximity points is a good way to do that. Apparently, FHFC is considering adding libraries and parks to the proximity list. While I don't deny that those are desirable amenities, in the overall quality of life considerations might things like big box retail stores, other shopping options, child or adult daycare, a bank, or even a place of worship be as important or even more important? By just adding libraries and parks, you have effectively eliminated a lot of otherwise good affordable housing sites. Adding a few more options to the proximity list will help create a greater variety of scores and will also have the effect of having the best sites selected.

In previous cycles, a maximum of two points have been awarded to sites with a bus stop and sites with a transit stop get a maximum of six points. That discrepancy seems excessive. Considering the convenience to the residents, having a bus stop virtually in front of a site ought to be worth more than two points. Perhaps you could consider 4 points for a bus stop within 1/4 mile and drop 1 point for each additional 1/4 mile.

Respectfully submitted,

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