



# Leon County

## Board of County Commissioners

301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 606-5302 www.leoncountyfl.gov

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Commissioners

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District 4

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County Attorney

September 6, 2007

Honorable Ed DePuy  
Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
301 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Honorable John Marks  
Mayor  
City of Tallahassee  
300 South Adams Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

RE: Tallahassee Mall Inclusion into the Frenchtown/Southside Community  
Redevelopment Area (F/S CRA)

Dear Friends:

After reviewing the August 7 letter from Edward Feldman concerning the Tallahassee Mall's inclusion in the Frenchtown/Southside Community Redevelopment Area (F/S CRA), I am aghast. It is a tremendous stretch of the imagination to fathom the Tallahassee Mall being included as a part of the Southside and Frenchtown Redevelopment Area.

I hope without much fanfare that your grasp of this unreasonable suggestion is clear. The Tallahassee Mall has an option of setting prices of goods sold under its roof. They are required to levy a sales tax. They are a for profit private entity that is not a government like the City of Tallahassee and they are not a blighted area such as the variables and category of qualifications that were applied to Frenchtown initially. It is certain that Tallahassee Mall has survived the number of businesses that have died in Frenchtown. The Tallahassee Mall out competed the merchants in Frenchtown and in the Southside. Now, the State is seeking to regenerate life into these areas due to a number of factors that have nothing to do with the issues cited by Edward Feldman.

Dillard's did not locate in Frenchtown or in the Southside period. It is still closing. If Dillard's with its national advertising budget and name brand has failed in the Tallahassee Mall, then this is not a problem that the Frenchtown and Southside CRA can fix. Why should we pander to the request of the Feldman Mall Properties, Inc.

who represents national retailers within his mall, but refuse to serve the needs of local businesses within the designated CRA that Ed Feldman wants to be recognized and included under?

Shingles Chicken House has closed. I would like to see a package that reaches out to renew this business. Several other stores have closed in the Southside and no one has provided CRA or other governmental designations or dollars to help them remain in business. Also, it is clear that no one reached out to save the businesses in the Frenchtown community at a time when they needed assistance. Actually, a package of economic assistance is needed to help Frenchtown businesses that remain presently and to help businesses in the Southside. Instead of designating the Tallahassee Mall as a CRA site let us instead focus on helping businesses already serving within the Frenchtown/Southside Community Redevelopment Area.

I sincerely believe that the Fairgrounds, when it qualifies, should be included in the Frenchtown Southside CRA.

Sincerely,



Bill Proctor  
District 1

cc: Board of County Commissioners  
Tallahassee City Commissioners  
Mr. Parwez Alam  
Mrs. Anita Favors Thompson