

June 29, 2026

Dear Palm-Aire, Cypress Bend, Collier City, and Other Impacted Residents of Pompano Beach:

For years, residents were promised a clear vision for the redevelopment of the Isle Casino Racing Pompano Park site: neighborhood-serving retail, restaurants, a grocery store, a Crystal Lagoon, a LIVE! entertainment district, and a design intended to buffer surrounding communities from traffic and intensity.

That vision has been systematically dismantled without explanation.

- The Crystal Lagoon became a drainage lake.
- The entertainment district never materialized.
- The hotel remains absent.
- The promised Publix and neighborhood-serving retail have been replaced with a proposed Costco and 32-pump gas station.

When was anyone going to explain what appears to be a “new” vision?

Shortly after I was elected, the City Manager asked what amenity might serve as an acceptable substitute for the Crystal Lagoon. In truth, long before I took office, key elements of the original plan had already been abandoned. Residents were never honestly considered or appropriately informed.

This is not about whether Costco is a good or bad business. It is about a fundamental bait-and-switch. Residents were promised a community-oriented, mixed-use development. What is now emerging is a collection of unrelated projects: an industrial park, a casino, thousands of apartments, TopGolf, and now a regional Costco and gas station.

These changes did not happen by accident. They resulted from a series of decisions supported by city leadership and elected officials, with little transparency and almost no meaningful public discussion—death by a thousand cuts.

You should not be learning about these changes at a public hearing or on social media.

By now, residents should have received updated explanations and versions of the entire project including

- Plans,
- Renderings,
- Timelines,
- a side-by-side comparison with the original vision,
- and a clear explanation of what was removed, what replaced it, and why.



CITY COMMISSION

Alison Fournier, Vice Mayor | District 3 Commissioner

E: alison.fournier@copbfl.com | C: 954-661-9012

Instead, residents have been left asking for information from local Publix and Costco store managers and gathering details on social media. Last week, they were aghast listening to the Planning & Zoning board chairman negotiate over walking paths around a drainage lake while the larger transformation of the project was discussed as simply a done deal.

Residents have a laundry list of questions, only now these questions should also include answers about a reported \$50,000 contribution from Pompano Park JV (Cordish/Caesars) to a local Political Action Committee less than two weeks before this item came before the Planning and Zoning Board. Who solicited it? Who was involved? Why did it occur at that moment?

I continue to believe our city is not for sale, but these are serious questions.

While residents are still trying to understand what happened, I fully expect efforts to continue pushing this project forward despite the Planning and Zoning Board's denial.

Consider this your warning.

You deserve transparency. You deserve honesty. You deserve an equitable seat at the table before decisions are made. I wish I could promise you will receive that. Unfortunately, if history is any guide, expect pressure, legal maneuvering, and procedural workarounds designed to bypass meaningful public oversight and to place consequential decisions in the hands of unelected city insiders rather than the City Commission you elected.

Sincerely,

Alison Fournier
Vice Mayor & District 3 City Commissioner
City of Pompano Beach