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## Palm Beach Special Magistrate Recommends Board Approval for Proposed Logistics Center Following April Hearing

Palm Beach Logistics Center Would Bring Hundreds of Quality Local Jobs and Millions of Tax Dollars Annually to the County

PALM BEACH COUNTY, Fla. (May 3, 2023) – Following an April hearing, special magistrate Bram Canter has released a recommendation in favor of the proposed use for a 174-acre parcel of land in west Jupiter, Fla., located at the site of the permanently closed Palm Beach International Raceway. The property owners plan to work with a buyer to develop a logistics center, dubbed 'Palm Beach Logistics Center,' which will add a productive asset to the community, provide hundreds of quality local jobs, and generate millions of tax dollars annually.

Brought before them during a January 2023 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners for Palm Beach County previously rejected the owners' revised site plan proposal and request for abandonment of the previously approved uses. Members of the Board faced pressure from a few vocal racing fans within the community, who hoped the owners would reopen the raceway, despite the fact that the track had proven to not be a financially sustainable venture. Following the denial, the property owners filed a Request for Relief that resulted in the hearing on Apr. 19, calling for a special magistrate's review of the owners' applications.

The magistrate's ruling states, "being forced to continue an unprofitable racetrack use the Owners do not want to continue and being denied [the] request to make another use of the property that is permitted by right, unfairly burdens [the Owners'] use of the property." The recommendation goes on to agree with the proposed project, noting "with the evolving nature of the economy, transportation and shipping, there is a significant need for large industrial sites within Palm Beach County." He concludes that it is "recommended that the board approve the Owners' applications that were denied on January 26, 2023." The County will have 45 days to bring the Magistrate's order before the Board, with a deadline of mid-June.

According to <u>an economic study</u> released by Land Research Management in April 2023, the logistics center would generate approximately \$4.6 million in annual tax revenue for the community, contributing to critical infrastructure like public services, roads, education, health care and more. Additionally, the center would add approximately 1,500 new, dependable jobs to the area to meet growing e-commerce demands in South Florida.

"We are grateful to the magistrate for his time and attention in this ruling, and we encourage the Commission to closely consider it and the facts of the case as they make their final decision," said Seth Behn, attorney for the property's owners. "As this ruling clearly supports, the owners of Palm Beach Logistics Center are well within their rights to develop this project which benefits all residents of Palm Beach County by creating good jobs, generates millions in new tax dollars

for the community, and fills an infrastructure void that is much needed for our bustling local economy."

For more information about the proposed logistics center, visit <u>palmbeachlc.com</u>.

## About Palm Beach Logistics Center:

Palm Beach Logistics Center is a 174-acre parcel of land located in Jupiter, Fla. The owners' vision for the property creates a productive asset for the Palm Beach community – a logistics park, which will offer quality jobs, millions in new tax dollars and a service that is in demand and needed for the county's growth. The proposed project meets or exceeds all county land development regulations and provides a minimum of 50-feet of natural buffer adjacent to the surrounding wetlands. For more information on the proposed project, visit palmbeachlc.com or email <u>PBLCTeam@rbbcommunications.com</u>.

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