

**STORAGE NAME:** h0627a.ca  
**DATE:** March 18, 1997

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
BILL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

**BILL #:** HB 627

**RELATING TO:** Community Redevelopment and Neighborhood Improvement

**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Goode

**STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:** Sections 163.340, 163.345, 163.350, 163.356, 163.358, 163.360, 163.361, 163.370, 163.387, 163.502, 163.503, 163.506, 163.511, 163.512, 163.513, 163.514, 163.516, 163.519, 163.521, and 943.1729, Florida Statutes

**COMPANION BILL(S):** SB 864 (i)

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS YEAS 7 NAYS 0
- (2) LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC SAFETY
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

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**I. SUMMARY:**

This bill provides additional authority to local governments to fund community policing programs within community redevelopment areas and safe neighborhood improvement districts. The bill amends the Community Redevelopment Act to include community policing innovations as an authorized activity of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs). The bill authorizes the inclusion of the development and implementation of community policing innovations in community redevelopment plans. Counties and municipalities are authorized to appropriate funds for the development and implementation of community policing innovations. The bill authorizes the use of moneys in redevelopment trust funds to develop and implement community policing innovations and provides an additional requirement to be met prior to acquisition of open land by a CRA. The bill authorizes tax increment revenues to be used to pay for the construction or expansion of administrative buildings for public bodies or police and fire buildings, if the construction or expansion is contemplated as part of a community policing innovation.

The bill also amends the Safe Neighborhoods Act to include crime prevention through community policing innovations in the powers of neighborhood improvement districts. Local government neighborhood districts and special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts are authorized to use special assessments to fund community policing innovations. Community redevelopment improvement districts are authorized to use community redevelopment trust fund moneys for the purpose of furthering crime prevention through community policing innovations. Finally, a local governing body of any local government in which the boundaries of an enterprise zone include a neighborhood improvement district is authorized to request the Department of Legal Affairs to submit within its legislative budget request provisions to fund capital improvements related to community policing innovations.

The bill also authorizes the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission to incorporate community policing concepts into required course curriculum and continuing education programs required of law enforcement officers.

The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate. The Department of Legal Affairs (DLA) indicates the bill will have an indeterminate, but insignificant, fiscal impact on the department. This bill does not require expenditures by local governments (See Fiscal Comments).

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

**Community Redevelopment Agencies**

In 1969, the Legislature passed the Community Redevelopment Act to provide a funding mechanism for community redevelopment efforts. Part III of chapter 163, F.S., allows a county or municipality to create a community redevelopment agency (CRA) to carry out redevelopment of slum or blighted areas. CRAs are not permitted to levy or collect taxes; however, the local governing body is permitted to establish a community redevelopment trust fund utilizing revenues derived from tax increment financing.

Creation of Community Redevelopment Agencies

Section 163.355, F.S., requires the adoption of a resolution finding that:

1. One or more slum or blighted areas or one or more areas in which there is a shortage of housing affordable to residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, exist within the county or municipality; and
2. The rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment of these areas, including, if appropriate, the development of affordable housing, is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of the county or municipality.

A "slum area" is defined as an area in which there is a predominance of buildings or improvements which, for various reasons, are conducive to ill health, transmission of disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency, or crime and which is detrimental to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare.

A "blighted area" is defined as either: 1) an area in which there are a number of slum, deteriorated, or deteriorating structures and conditions that endanger life or property by fire or other causes or in which other factors exist that substantially impair or arrest the sound growth of a county or municipality and are a menace to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare at present; or 2) an area in which there exists faulty or inadequate street layout, inadequate parking facilities, or roadways, bridges or public transportation facilities incapable of handling the volume of traffic at present or following proposed construction.

Section 163.356, F.S., provides that upon a finding of necessity and upon a further finding that there is a need for a CRA to function in the county or municipality to carry out the community redevelopment purposes of part III of chapter 163, F.S., any county or municipality may create a public body corporate and politic to be known as a "community redevelopment agency." Such an agency is to be constituted as a public instrumentality, and the exercise of the powers provided in part III, chapter 163, F.S., are to be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential public function.

A CRA may be governed by a separate board of commissioners appointed by the local government governing body or the local government governing body may adopt a resolution declaring itself to be the CRA. A local governing body serving as a CRA may appoint two additional members to serve as members of the CRA. The law also allows a local governing body to confer the redevelopment powers on another body already in existence on July 1, 1977, such as a downtown development authority or board whose purpose is redevelopment.

#### Encouragement of Private Enterprise

Subsection (1) of section 163.345, F.S., provides for counties and municipalities, to the greatest extent feasible in carrying out the provisions of the CRA Act, to afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the county or municipality as a whole, to the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the CRA area by private enterprise. Counties and municipalities are directed to give consideration to this objective in exercising their powers under the CRA Act. Specific examples of such powers are included.

#### Community Redevelopment Agency Plans

Each community redevelopment area must have an approved community redevelopment plan in conformance with the local government comprehensive plan. The local government may subsequently modify the community redevelopment plan upon the recommendation of the CRA. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 163.360, F.S., relating to CRA plans, requires specified conditions to be met prior to acquisition of open land by a CRA in the event the area is to be developed in whole or in part for nonresidential uses.

#### Public Buildings

Subsection (2) of section 163.370, F.S., provides a list of projects that may not be paid for or financed by increment revenues. This list includes the construction or expansion of administrative buildings for public bodies or police and fire buildings, unless each taxing authority agrees to this method of financing for the construction or expansion.

#### Redevelopment Trust Funds and Tax Increment Financing

Section 163.387, F.S., provides for the creation of a redevelopment trust fund for each CRA. Funds allocated to and deposited into this fund are used by the CRA to finance any community redevelopment undertaken based on an approved community redevelopment plan. In tax increment financing, property values in a certain defined community redevelopment area are frozen by local ordinance at the assessed value for a particular base year. As redevelopment proceeds within the redevelopment area, the actual assessed value of property within the redevelopment area should increase. Taxing authorities located within the community redevelopment area are required to deposit the incremental revenue received as a result of this increase in property value in a redevelopment trust fund established by the CRA. Section 163.387, F.S., specifically provides that "the annual funding of the redevelopment trust fund shall be in an amount not less than that increment in the income, proceeds, revenues, and funds of each taxing authority derived from or held in connection with undertaking and carrying out of community redevelopment under this part."

### Community Redevelopment Agency Powers

CRA's are granted those powers "necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes of the act." These powers include the power to issue bonds and acquire property by eminent domain, if approved by the governing body that established the CRA. CRA's also are granted the power to undertake and carry out community redevelopment and related activities within the community redevelopment area. Section 163.370(1)(c), F.S., states that this redevelopment may include such activities as the acquisition and disposition of real property located within the community redevelopment area and the repair or rehabilitation of structures within the community redevelopment area for dwelling uses.

### **Neighborhood Improvement Districts**

Chapter 163, part IV, Florida Statutes, Neighborhood Improvement Districts, allows for the creation of Safe Neighborhood Improvement Districts. It is the intent of the Safe Neighborhood Improvement Districts to guide and accomplish the coordinated, balanced, and harmonious development of safe neighborhoods; to promote the health, safety and general welfare of these areas and their inhabitants, visitors, property owners, and workers; to establish, maintain, and preserve property values and preserve and foster the development of attractive neighborhood and business environments; to prevent overcrowding and congestion; to improve or redirect automobile traffic and provide pedestrian safety; to reduce crime rates and the opportunities for the commission of crime; and to provide improvements in neighborhoods so they are defensible against crime.

Safe Neighborhood Improvement Districts are formed by a local ordinance and, once formed, there are a number of options available for the implementation of a safe neighborhood program.

**One of the available options** under the Safe Neighborhoods Act is the **Local Government Neighborhood Improvement District**. The Local Government Neighborhood Improvement District is created through a local planning ordinance, utilizes community involvement through an advisory council, and may charge fees and/or taxes to accomplish the goals of neighborhood improvement. While neighborhood improvement is a tenant of this program, it is not its central focus; crime prevention is central with neighborhood improvement secondary. This type of district must:

- Specify the boundaries, size, and name of the district;
- Authorize the district to receive grants from the city;
- Authorize the assessment of an ad valorem tax of up to 2 mills;
- Authorize the use of special assessments to support planning and implementation of district improvements;
- Designate a board of directors; and
- Establish an advisory council comprised of property owners or residents in the district.

A Local Government Neighborhood Improvement District has the power to:

- Enter into contracts;
- Acquire, own, lease, or improve its property;

- Accept grants and donations;
- Have exclusive control over its funds;
- Cooperate and contract with other governmental agencies;
- Contract for services of planning consultants and crime prevention experts;
- Contract with county or municipal government for planning assistance and increased levels of security;
- Promote the neighborhood to businesses and commercial entities;
- Improve facilities, undertake approaches to prevent crime, and modify the district plan to implement these changes;
- Identify areas with blighted influences, including areas with unlawful dumping or graffiti, and develop programs to eradicate blight; and
- Subject to referendum, make special assessments to pay for improvements in the district and cover other expenses.

**A second option available** under the Safe Neighborhoods Act is the **Property Owners' Association Neighborhood Improvement District**. This option is similar to the former district; however, the powers are vested in a property owners' association that is already in existence or created with the purpose of implementing a safe neighborhood program. The Property Owners' Association Neighborhood Improvement District can be created when 75 percent of the property owners agree to the proposed district and it has the same powers as specified for the former district. The governing body of the preexisting association governs the district. These associations can, to the extent of their power, also use deed restrictions, covenants, and indentures to further promote neighborhood improvement; but again, the property owners' association must be in place before the district is established. This type of district is authorized to request money from the state's Safe Neighborhood Program to prepare its plan.

**A third option, the Special Neighborhood Improvement District**, is essentially a single-purpose special district. It is created by local ordinance, subject to a referendum, and has the same powers as the other districts. Like other special districts, these districts are authorized to levy taxes or special assessments. They may also receive grants from the planning department to prepare an improvement plan. There are a governing board and a manager that supervise the daily activities of the district.

**The fourth and final option available** under the Safe Neighborhoods Act is a **Community Redevelopment Neighborhood Improvement District**. These districts are created upon the recommendation of the community redevelopment agency, after the passage of a local planning ordinance. These districts have access to local redevelopment funds to implement an improvement plan and further crime prevention through environmental design. Like the Safe Neighborhood Improvement District, this entity must form an advisory board comprised of residents or property owners, and possess the same powers as all the other safe neighborhood districts. This type of district also performs duties as prescribed by the local community redevelopment agency.

All of the above-described districts are required to analyze local crime activities and determine the relationships between land use and the frequency of crimes. They are authorized to implement necessary programs to reduce crime and promote safe neighborhoods.

The Safe Neighborhoods Trust Fund, created by section 163.517, Florida Statutes, provides funds on a matching basis to any one of the safe neighborhood districts for planning projects or technical assistance.

**B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:**

This bill provides additional authority to local governments to fund community policing programs within community redevelopment areas and safe neighborhood improvement districts.

The bill amends the Community Redevelopment Act of 1969 to include the reduction of crime through community policing innovations as an authorized activity of community redevelopment agencies. The bill defines "community policing innovations" to mean a policing technique or strategy designed to reduce crime by reducing opportunities for, and increasing the perceived risks of engaging in, criminal activity through visible presence of police in the community, including, but not limited to, community mobilization, neighborhood block watch, citizen patrol, citizen contact patrol, foot patrol, neighborhood storefront police stations, field interrogation, or intensified motorized patrol. The bill authorizes the inclusion of the development and implementation of community policing innovations in community redevelopment plans. Counties and municipalities are authorized to appropriate funds for the development and implementation of community policing innovations, and the bill authorizes the use of moneys in redevelopment trust funds to develop and implement community policing innovations. The bill amends conditions that must be met prior to acquisition of open land by a CRA in the event the area is to be developed in whole or in part for nonresidential uses, to require the governing body to find that conditions of blight in the area contribute to an increase in and spread of disease and crime or constitute a menace to public health, safety, morals, or welfare. The bill authorizes tax increment revenues to be used to pay for the construction or expansion of administrative buildings for public bodies or police and fire buildings, if the construction or expansion is contemplated as part of a community policing innovation.

The bill also amends the Safe Neighborhoods Act to include crime prevention through community policing innovations in the powers of neighborhood improvement districts. Local government neighborhood districts and special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts are authorized to use special assessments to fund community policing innovations. Community redevelopment improvement districts are authorized to use community redevelopment trust fund moneys for the purpose of furthering crime prevention through community policing innovations. Finally, a local governing body of any local government in which the boundaries of an enterprise zone include a neighborhood improvement district is authorized to request the Department of Legal Affairs to submit within its legislative budget request provisions to fund capital improvements related to community policing innovations.

The bill authorizes the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission to incorporate community policing concepts into course curriculum required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain initial certification. The Commission may also establish a continued-employment training component related to community policing techniques before January 1, 1997, and the bill provides for the completion of the training component to count toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No.

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

No.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

Not applicable.

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

Not applicable.

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

Not applicable.

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

No.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

No.

- c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

No.

- d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

No.

- e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

No.

3. Personal Responsibility:

- a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No.

- b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

As discussed in the Section by Section Analysis, sections 12 and 13 of this bill allow local government neighborhood districts and special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts to use special assessments to fund community policing innovations. These provisions could result in additional special assessments, which are subject to referendum approval, to fund community policing innovations. Individuals and entities paying special assessments would receive benefits.

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

No.

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

No.

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:



(1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

Not applicable.

(2) Who makes the decisions?

Not applicable.

(3) Are private alternatives permitted?

Not applicable.

(4) Are families required to participate in a program?

Not applicable.

(5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

Not applicable.

b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

No.

c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

(1) parents and guardians?

Not applicable.

(2) service providers?

Not applicable.

(3) government employees/agencies?

Not applicable.

**D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:**

**Section 1.** Subsections (9) and (12) of section 163.340, F.S., are amended, and a new subsection (23) is added, to revise definitions of "community redevelopment" or "redevelopment" and "related activities" and to provide a definition for "community policing innovation." The definition of "community redevelopment" or "redevelopment" is amended to include the reduction or prevention of crime as a focus of community redevelopment or redevelopment efforts. The definition of "related activities" is

amended to include the development of community policing innovations. The term "community policing innovations" is defined to mean a policing technique or strategy designed to reduce crime by reducing opportunities for, and increasing the perceived risks of engaging in, criminal activity through visible presence of police in the community, including, but not limited to, community mobilization, neighborhood block watch, citizen patrol, citizen contact patrol, foot patrol, neighborhood storefront police stations, field interrogation, or intensified motorized patrol.

**Section 2.** Subsection (1) of section 163.345, F.S., relating to the encouragement of private enterprise, is amended to expand existing provisions directing counties and municipalities to involve private enterprise in redevelopment. Currently, the subsection provides for counties and municipalities, to the greatest extent feasible in carrying out the provisions of the CRA Act, to afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the county or municipality as a whole, to the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the CRA area by private enterprise. Counties and municipalities are directed to give consideration to this objective in exercising their powers under the CRA Act. Specific examples of such powers are stated in the subsection. This section adds the development and implementation of community policing innovations to this list.

**Section 3.** Section 163.350, F.S., relating to the creation of a workable program for a CRA, provides that the workable program may include a provision providing for the implementation of community policing innovations.

**Section 4.** Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 163.356, F.S., is amended. The existing authority of a governing body of a county or municipality to appropriate to a CRA funds it deems necessary for the administrative expenses and overhead of the CRA is revised to include the development and implementation of community policing innovations as an eligible expense.

**Section 5.** Subsection (5) is added to section 163.358, F.S., to provide that the power to approve the development of community policing innovations shall vest in the governing body of the county or municipality, and not the CRA.

**Section 6.** Subsections (3) through (9) of section 163.360, F.S., are renumbered as subsections (4) through (10), a new subsection (3) is added to the section, and subsection (4), paragraph (c) of subsection (6), and paragraph (b) of subsection (7) are amended.

The new subsection (3) provides that a community redevelopment plan may provide for the development and implementation of community policing innovations.

Paragraph (c) of subsection (6), which is renumbered as subsection (7), is amended to provide that prior to approving a community redevelopment plan, a governing body must find that the plan gives due consideration to the utilization of community policing innovations.

Paragraph (b) of current subsection (7), which is renumbered subsection (8), is amended to add to the conditions that must be met prior to acquisition of open land by a CRA in the event the area is to be developed in whole or in part for nonresidential uses. The section requires the governing body to find that conditions of blight in the area

contribute to an increase in and spread of disease and crime or constitute a menace to public health, safety, morals, or welfare.

**Section 7.** Subsection (1) of section 163.361, F.S., relating to modifications of community redevelopment plans, is amended to provide that a CRA recommendation to a governing body for changes in a community redevelopment plan may include the development and implementation of community policing innovations.

**Section 8.** Paragraph (p) is added to subsection (1) of section 163.370, F.S., and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 163.370, F.S., is amended.

Paragraph (p) is added to subsection (1) to add to the powers granted to every county and municipality the power to develop and implement community policing innovations.

Paragraph (a) of subsection (2), is amended to provide that tax increment revenues may be used to pay for the construction or expansion of administrative buildings for public bodies or police and fire buildings, if the construction or expansion is contemplated as part of a community policing innovation.

**Section 9.** Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (6) of section 163.387, F.S., to provide that moneys in the redevelopment trust fund may be used to finance the development of community policing innovations.

**Section 10.** Subsection (4) of section 163.502, F.S., relating to the intent of the Legislature regarding the Safe Neighborhoods Act, is amended to state that it is the intent of the Legislature to assist local governments in implementing plans that employ crime prevention through community policing innovations to establish safe neighborhoods.

**Section 11.** Subsection (1) of section 163.503, F.S., is amended, and subsection (9) is added to the section.

Subsection (1), which provides a definition of "safe neighborhood improvement district," is amended to provide that the requirement of a plan to reduce crime may accomplish this goal through community policing innovations.

Subsection (9) is added to the section to provide a definition of "community policing innovation."

**Section 12.** Paragraph (d) of section (1) of section 163.506, F.S., which requires local ordinances adopted to create local government neighborhood districts to authorize the use of special assessments to support planning and implementation of district improvements, pursuant to the provisions of section 163.514(16), F.S., is amended to include community policing innovations as a district improvement.

**Section 13.** Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 163.511, F.S., 1996 Supplement, is amended, and paragraph (j) is added to the subsection.

Paragraph (c) of subsection (1), which provides that local ordinances creating special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts must authorize the use of special assessments to support planning and implementation of district improvements,

pursuant to the provisions of section 163.514(16), F.S., is amended to include community policing innovations as a district improvement.

Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (1) to provide that local ordinances creating special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts may authorize a special neighborhood improvement district to develop and implement community policing innovations in consultation with the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction within the district boundaries.

**Section 14.** Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 163.512, F.S., is amended to provide that local ordinances creating community redevelopment improvement districts may authorize the use of the community redevelopment trust fund for the purpose of furthering crime prevention through community policing innovations.

**Section 15.** Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 163.513, F.S., are amended to include community policing innovations as an additional crime prevention technique all boards of local governments, property owners' associations, special neighborhood improvement districts, and community redevelopment neighborhood improvement districts created under this act must consider when performing specified duties.

**Section 16.** Subsections (7) and (12) of section 163.514, F.S., are amended to provide that unless prohibited by ordinance, the board of any neighborhood improvement district may contract for services of experts on crime prevention through community policing innovations, and may undertake crime prevention through community policing innovations.

**Section 17.** Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 163.516, F.S., is amended to require that mandated safe neighborhood plans must include an assessment of crime prevention through community policing innovations.

**Section 18.** Subsections (8) and (9) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (11) of section 163.519, F.S., are amended to revise the duties of the Department of Legal Affairs (DLA).

Subsection (8) is amended to require the DLA to act as the repository of crime prevention through community policing innovations.

Subsection (9) is amended to require the DLA to utilize staff to provide crime prevention through community policing innovations.

Paragraphs (a) subsection (11), which requires the DLA to ensure that appropriate plan elements are based on crime prevention through specified crime prevention techniques, is amended to include community policing techniques.

Paragraphs (b) subsection (11), which requires the DLA to ensure that appropriate plan elements are consistent with crime prevention through specified crime prevention techniques, is amended to include community policing techniques.

**Section 19.** Section 163.521, F.S., relating to neighborhood improvement districts located inside enterprise zones, is amended. The existing section authorizes the local governing body of any local government in which the boundaries of an enterprise zone

include a neighborhood improvement district, prior to October 1 of each year, to request the DLA to submit within its legislative budget request provisions to fund capital improvements. The section requires that capital improvements included in such requests be specifically related to crime prevention through specified crime prevention techniques. This section of the bill adds community policing innovations to the list of techniques.

**Section 20.** A new section 943.1729, F.S., is created to provide for skills training relating to community policing for law enforcement officers. Subsection (1) provides that "community policing" means a policing technique or strategy as defined in section 163.340, F.S. Subsection (2) authorizes the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission to incorporate community policing concepts into course curriculum required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain initial certification. Subsection (3) authorizes the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission to establish a continued-employment training component related to community policing techniques before January 1, 1997. The subsection provides for completion of the training component to count toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer.

**Section 21.** An effective date of upon becoming law is provided.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments.)

2. Recurring Effects:

Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments.)

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments.)

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments).

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

As discussed in the Section by Section Analysis, sections 12 and 13 of this bill allow local government neighborhood districts and special residential or business neighborhood improvement districts to use special assessments to fund community policing innovations. These provisions could result in additional special assessments, which are subject to referendum approval, to fund community policing innovations.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

None.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

This bill provides additional authority to local government to fund specified crime reduction programs within community redevelopment areas and safe neighborhood improvement districts. To the extent that implementation of the bill results in reduced crime, the bill could promote private enterprise and employment within these areas. To the extent that private enterprise is involved in the implementation of community policing innovations, the bill could result in additional capital improvement projects for private enterprise.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill amends the Safe Neighborhoods Act and assigns additional duties to the Department of Legal Affairs (DLA) relating to community policing innovations. The DLA indicates that the bill will have an indeterminate, but insignificant, fiscal impact on the DLA. The Legislature has not appropriated funds for the program in recent years, and the DLA currently receives no funding relating to its duties assigned under the Safe Neighborhoods Act. The DLA does, upon request, review and comment on safe neighborhood improvement plans. The DLA does provide training on community oriented policing to law enforcement officers through its Crime Prevention Training Institute.

This bill does not require expenditures by local governments. The bill does provide additional authority to local government to fund specified crime reduction programs within community redevelopment areas and safe neighborhood improvement districts.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require expenditures by counties or municipalities.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not reduce the revenue raising authority of counties or municipalities.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce state tax shared with counties and municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

On April 18, 1997, the Committee on Community Affairs considered and passed HB 627 with one amendment. The amendment inserts a new section 9 into the bill to amend subsection (3) of section 163.380, Florida Statutes.

The amendment allows any county, municipality, or community redevelopment agency that, pursuant to the disposition procedures established in this section, has disposed of any land area in excess of 20 acres to acquire any immediately adjacent area that is less than 35 percent of the original land area, and dispose of such property through direct negotiation with the person who acquired the original project without complying with existing disposition procedures. To exercise this power, the county, municipality, or community redevelopment agency must adopt a resolution making the following findings:

1. it is in the public interest to expand such real property project to an immediately adjacent area;
2. the expanded area is less than 35 percent of the land area of the original project;
3. the expanded area is entirely within the boundary of the community redevelopment area.

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VII. SIGNATURES:

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