

# Daily Press

## DEVELOPER OFFERS CONCESSIONS ON *GLOUCESTER* HOUSING PLAN

Date: Monday, March 26, 2007

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Residents will have one last opportunity to speak on the proposed *Villages of Gloucester* tonight.

In a final attempt to sweeten the palate of *Gloucester's* decision makers before an upcoming vote on the *Villages of Gloucester*, project developers have offered two new concessions intended to ease concerns over the massive project's contribution to urbanization of the rural county.

Chief developer Mike Wilson said two legally binding amendments to project designs have been offered to "assure residents that the multi-family areas proposed will not have an urban look."

The *Villages of Gloucester* proposal, which requests a midcounty rezoning of 908 acres to allow the golf-course-centered development, will be decided by county supervisors on April 3.

*Gloucester* residents will have one more opportunity to speak about the project at a public hearing at 7 tonight at Page Middle School.

In February, *Gloucester's* planning commission recommended approval of the project by a split vote.

Wilson's group proposed that no more than 170 residences be allowed to move into the development each year to limit the rate of buildout.

The 1,122-home development, if approved, is expected to take up to 12 years to complete.

Another amendment mandates a minimum setback of 75 feet of open space -- to include landscaped, natural or water areas -- surrounding three neighborhoods that would house multi-family condominium-type buildings.

The *Villages of Gloucester* is a revamped version of the Barrens proposal that was denied by the supervisors in 2003. \*