

INQ 02-47

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2002 4:31 PM  
**To:** Sorenson, Katy (DIST8)  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry regarding potential conflict of interest

**Tracking:** Recipient Read  
Sorenson, Katy (DIST8) Read: 9/26/02 4:58 PM

Dear Katy,

Based upon the facts you have provided me, if Ms. Romero sits on the CRA she could not vote on any matters brought by the developer before the CRA if she establishes a business relationship with the developer involving any projects within the CRA boundaries. Because the developer owns a majority share of the land within the district, the developer is likely to appear before the CRA on a regular basis, which would cause a frequently, recurring conflict for her. Finally, if Ms. Romero decided to serve as a member and limits her business relationship with the developer to transactions outside the area controlled by the CRA, there is still the appearance of impropriety she would have to overcome. Therefore, I would recommend against Ms. Romero serving on the CRA on account of the business relationship she is contemplating.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Robert Meyers

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sorenson, Katy (DIST8)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2002 12:11 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** Inquiry regarding potential conflict of interest

Dear Robert,

I'm putting together a Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) for a tax increment financing district in the Naranja Lakes area of south Dade. This group will be responsible for overseeing the expenditure of funds accrued through this legal mechanism, and will be used primarily for infrastructure and amenities within the boundaries of the district.

The majority of the land, 210 acres, has been purchased by a developer, and groundbreaking will occur after the first of the year.

I want to ask a community member, Julie Romero, to serve on the CRA. She and her husband own a lumber business in the area. She doesn't want to serve if she'll be precluded from doing business with the developer, so I told her I'd ask your opinion.

Is there a potential conflict here?

Need to know ASAP to get this item on the next BCC agenda. Thanks for your help.

Katy Sorenson