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January 5, 2018

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kevin G. Johnson, Supervisor

The Sweden Town Board will hold a second Public Hearing regarding a proposal to re-zone property at the northwest corner of Redman and Fourth Section Roads from Single Family Residence to Multiple Residence. The Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7 pm at the Sweden Town Hall.

The first Public Hearing was held on July 25, 2017. I attended as a private citizen, as did new Town Board Member Patricia Hayles. However, we feel it is important for us to participate in a Public Hearing as your elected officials who will be making the rezoning determination in 2018 (the previous Town Board did not act to grant or deny the application before the end of 2017).

We also heard your concerns that not enough time was given between the date the Public Hearing was set and the date it was held. Although the Town did follow the legal time and notification requirements, we understand that our citizens want a little more time and a little more notice to prepare. On January 2, we set the new hearing date for February 13, a full six weeks ahead.

I am also increasing the methods by which we notify the Public. The Town Clerk will still post the legal notice in our official newspaper the *Suburban News* and on our website at www.townofsweden.org. She will continue to mail the courtesy notifications to property owners within 500 feet.

I am sending this news release to various outlets and posting it on my new Town of Sweden Supervisor Facebook page. Finally, I am proposing some changes to the Rules and Procedures of the Sweden Town Board to make permanent the longer time between setting Public Hearing dates and holding them; and requiring a quicker mailing of notifications to residents. I expect the Board will adopt those changes in the near future.

We hope to see residents at the February 13 Public Hearing to have a meaningful discussion about this rezoning proposal.