



STAFF REPORT

HEARINGS: Planning & Zoning Commission: January 12, 2026

APPLICANT: Pedone Sand Mine

FILE NUMBER: CU-25-14

REQUEST: Conditional Use Permit for Excavation

GENERAL LOCATION: South of Dashback Street and east side of Kettering Road

PARCEL KEY NUMBER: 396716

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

On September 11, 2023, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for excavation on six parcels totaling 152.3 acres, with lot sizes ranging from 59 to 118.5 acres. The petitioner is now requesting to renew and expand the Conditional Use Permit to include excavation on the remaining parcel.

Excavations are allowed under the County Land Development Regulations through a Conditional Use Permit for up to five years, with a maximum of 40 acres at a time. The petitioner has stated that excavation will be limited to 40 acres per phase. Before starting each phase, all required buffers and silt fencing must be installed. Before completing a phase, the buffers and fencing for the next phase must also be in place. After each phase, the disturbed area must be stabilized—typically by seeding, mulching, and watering—to prevent erosion, before moving to the next phase.

Excavation will be done using front-end loaders and track-mounted excavators, extending vertically down to approximately 60 feet, without disturbing clay, limestone, or groundwater. Excavated sand will be temporarily stockpiled onsite for sale and transport. No washing, screening, or processing of materials will occur onsite.

The excavation is planned to operate seven days per week. At the current rate, the site could operate for 5 more years, depending on demand. Approximately 75% of the middle 40-acre site has already been excavated. The 23.93-acre northern parcel and 13.96-acre southern parcel remain undisturbed pasture.

SITE CHARACTERISTICS

Site Size	116.85 Acres
Surrounding Zoning; Land Uses	North: PDP(IND); Undeveloped South: AG; Undeveloped

East: CPDP(SF and MF);
Undeveloped
West: CPDP; Undeveloped

Current Zoning: PDP(IND)

Future Land Use Map Designation: I-75 Planned Development Project

UTILITIES REVIEW

Hernando County Utilities Department (HCUD) does not currently supply water or wastewater service to this parcel. Water is available. There is also a 12" force main that runs along the west side of Kettering Rd. HCUD has no objection to the conditional use to renewing and extending the existing sand mine/pit.

ENGINEERING REVIEW

The property is located east of Kettering Road and south of Dashback Street. Access to the site will be from Kettering Road, south of Dashback Street, via Ariana Dairy Farm, which is also owned by the petitioner.

The County Engineer has reviewed the request and indicated the following:

1. The Road Maintenance Agreement shall be revised with Department of Public Works. Rate reduction is not supported.
2. Staff has been receiving complaints along the route that the trucks are taking to get to Pasco County.
3. Applicant must explain how parcels to the east of parcel key # 396716 will access Kettering Road.

Comments: Prior to initiating the conditional use permit, the petitioner shall coordinate with the Department of Public Works to revise the maintenance agreement, address resident complaints and concerns and address access to Kettering Road.

LAND USE REVIEW

Minimum Building Setbacks Required in the District:

In accordance with the County Land Development Regulations Appendix A Article III Section 3,I, Subsection 6. Setbacks The following minimum distances from the permittee property line shall be maintained for the identified adjacent property uses

- West: 300'
- East: 300'
- North: 100'
- Rear: 100'

Comments: At no time shall any single parcel exceed the maximum requirement of 40.0 acres. Additionally, no parcel shall be paired or phased with a larger parcel in order to achieve 40.0 acres

Buffer

The buffer requirement shall be a minimum of one hundred (100) feet measured perpendicular from the property line. Where required, the buffer shall shield adjoining properties when viewed from the property line. The buffer must shield the operation at the time excavation begins. Shielding shall meet an eighty percent (80%) opacity standard. Berms, towers, stockpiles and other similar items which extend above the buffer need not be shielded. The clearing and stripping of vegetation from the land shall not require the pre-establishment of a buffer. If approved, the petitioner must meet the minimum buffering requirements of the County's LDRs. The excavation of the site will have to comply with the County's LDRs relating to excavation. The standards address the provision of screening (vegetative or berm), hours of operation, fugitive dust control, reclamation, etc.

A conditional use permit is intended to be used as a special permit which temporarily allows uses not otherwise permitted by the ordinance. The Commission has the ability to grant a conditional use permit for a period up to five (5) years.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The requested Conditional Use Permit for excavation, is appropriate based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and compatibility with the surrounding land uses.

1. Excavation activities will be limited to a maximum of 40 acres at any given time.
2. The petitioner is requesting approval to conduct excavation in phased sections.
3. All required buffers and silt fencing will be installed prior to moving into each subsequent phase.
4. Upon completion of each phase, the disturbed area will be promptly stabilized to prevent erosion.

NOTICE OF APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITY

The conditional use permit process is a land use determination and does not constitute a permit for either construction, or use of, the property, or a Certificate of Concurrency. Prior to use of, or construction on, the property, the petitioner must receive approval from the appropriate County department(s) for the proposed use.

The granting of this land use determination does not protect the owner from civil liability for recorded deed restrictions which may exceed any county land use ordinances. Homeowner associations or architectural review committees require submission of plans for review and approval. The applicant for this land use request should contact the local association or the Public Records for all restrictions applicable to this property.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Planning and Zoning Commission approve the Conditional Use Permit for Excavation for a period of five (5) years with the following performance conditions:

1. The petitioner must obtain all permits from Hernando County and other applicable agencies and meet all applicable land development regulations, for either construction or use of the property, and complete all applicable development review processes.
2. At no time shall excavation exceed the maximum limit of 40.0 acres. Additionally, the parcel shall be paired or phased as necessary to ensure that excavation activities remain within the 40.0-acre maximum.

3. If a clay lens is encountered during the excavation operation, the petitioner must modify the Excavation Permit to review the new elevation of the excavation bottom.
4. The petitioner must maintain a valid SWFWMD permit prior to the issuance of the Excavation Permit.
5. A minimum 100' buffer shall be provided along the perimeter of the excavation site. Any buffer that has been encroached upon by the mining operation shall be restored in accordance with County regulations. Where required, the buffer shall shield adjoining properties when viewed from the property line. The buffer shall shield the operation at the time excavation begins.
6. A minimum 300-foot Setback along the east and west sides, and a 100-foot setback along the north and south sides, shall be maintained around the perimeter of the excavation site. Any portion of the buffer disturbed by mining activities must be restored in accordance with County regulations.
7. The petitioner is requesting approval to conduct excavation in phased sections, with excavation activities limited to a maximum of 40 acres at any given time.
8. All required buffers and silt fencing shall be installed prior to initiating each subsequent phase. Upon completion of a phase, all disturbed areas shall be promptly stabilized to prevent erosion.
9. The petitioner shall coordinate with the Hernando County Planning Division to ensure no gopher tortoises have re-entered the excavation site
10. The Road Maintenance Agreement shall be revised in coordination with the Department of Public Works. A rate reduction is not supported.
11. The petitioner shall coordinate with the Department of Public Works to revise the maintenance agreement, address resident complaints and concerns, and ensure proper access to Kettering Road.
12. The Department of Public Works has received complaints regarding the truck route used to access Pasco County. The petitioner shall provide a plan identifying the designated routes that trucks will use to travel to Pasco County.
13. The Petitioner shall clarify the proposed access route to Kettering Road for the parcels situated east of Parcel Key #396716.
14. The Conditional Use permit for excavation will expire on January 12, 2031.