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### Opponents teed off at Tamarac plan to turn golf courses into housing

By Lisa J. Huriash, Sun Sentinel

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TAMARAC

Residents have hired lawyers and are threatening protests before the City Commission votes next week on two proposals to turn golf courses into housing.

On April 14 at 5 p.m., an hour before a scheduled commission meeting, Woodmont residents opposed to closing the Pines golf course will be out in force, according to Keenan Poole, their spokesman. If the owner's rezoning request is granted, the Pines will be developed with 255 single-family homes and nearly 61,000 square feet of commercial space.

Last week, the residents formed "Save Woodmont Inc." to raise money for legal representation by the firm Becker & Poliakoff. The firm required a \$10,000 retainer and so far residents have raised about \$12,000, said Poole, an accountant who formed the group.

"We're calling in the A-Team," said Poole, who lives on the 12th hole of the Pines course. Becker & Poliakoff specializes in Florida condominium law.

The second proposal would close the Glades course at Colony West and turn it into 375 townhouses and two-story condos and nearly 52,000 square feet of commercial space. That plan heads to the commission for a vote at 6 p.m. on April 15.

In March, the city's planning board voted to deny the Woodmont Country Club rezoning request, but approved the one at Colony West, provided the developer build fewer residences. Since then, the number has been cut from 422 to 375 homes.

Commissioners can accept or reject a planning board recommendation. Once the commission OKs a plan, it goes to the county and state for more hearings.

Donna Friscia, president of the Plum Harbor Homeowners Association, said residents plan a protest at 3



p.m. Sunday in front of Tamarac City Hall. The Plum Harbor community, which abuts the Glades course, has spent more than \$20,000 to hire Shubin & Bass, a Miami law firm that handles land use issues, she said.

"We don't want a street running up behind the backyards of our homeowners," she said. "And why are we jamming all these people into this tiny spit of land?"

The April 14 and 15 commission meetings, originally set for 9 a.m., were rescheduled to 6 p.m. "in an effort to be more accommodating to the working public," said Andy Berns, city spokesman.

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