

Re: Fw: Gold Award - Bat House

From Eli <amelialindahorwitz@gmail.com>

Date Fri 2/7/2025 9:48 AM

To Rick Rudometkin <rickr@belleislefl.gov>

Cc Phil Price <pprice@belleislefl.gov>; Yolanda Quiceno <yquiceno@belleislefl.gov>; gstroop114fl@gmail.com <gstroop114fl@gmail.com>

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Hi Mr. Rudometkin,

My original project was to build individual bat houses to offer to Belle Isle residents to provide living space for our bat community. During the Council meeting when we established Belle Isle Bat Day, Commissioner Bobrowski mentioned that she would like to see a larger bat house installed on City property and mentioned potentially working together. After the meeting, I thought through it and discussed with my Gold Award Advisory Team, and I would love to work with the City to build a larger bat house.

Commissioner Bobrowski mentioned the bat houses on UF's campus as examples. Here is a picture of it:



I would work with the City to make sure it matches the City's desires for appearance. My mom is a professional Civil Engineer, and my cousin is a Professional Architect, and they are part of my Advisory team to help with any needed design.

Here is another example:



My project would include the purchase of materials, design, plans, etc. as well as the construction. My grandfather worked in construction his entire career and is part of my advisory team as well. Once it is constructed, I would anticipate the ownership and maintenance of the house (probably won't be too much) would be the City.

I was thinking Wallace Field might be a good place to construct the bat house. It is in a place where our City residents can visit to watch the bats fly out at sunset (just like at UF's campus!). It is also close to Lake Conway for the bats to be able to hunt for bugs. Another member of my Advisory Team is my Aunt, Katy Strobl, who has a degree in Animal Science from UF and worked in animal care here in Orlando. She suggested that location would be good for bats.

Please let me know your thoughts on this, as I hope to get working on the project this month if we can. Thank you!

On Tue, Feb 4, 2025 at 9:34 AM Rick Rudometkin <rickr@belleislefl.gov> wrote:

Hi Eli,

Thank you for reaching out! Can you send us a picture or a plan of what is intended to be installed/built? When you spoke of the construction, we assumed you would build and supply the bat house, and the city would be involved in the placement. I do not know or remember if we talked about or if we can be responsible for the maintenance or the construction of the bat house. We can talk more about it.

Let us know.

We appreciate it.

Rick J Rudometkin, CPM, ICMA-CM

City Manager

City of Belle Isle

407-851-7730

rickr@belleislefl.gov



From: Yolanda Quiceno <yquiceno@belleislefl.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Rick Rudometkin <rickr@belleislefl.gov>
Subject: FW: Gold Award - Bat House

See below

From: Eli <amelialindahorwitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 11:37 AM
To: Holly Bobrowski <district2@belleislefl.gov>; Yolanda Quiceno <yquiceno@belleislefl.gov>
Cc: gstroop114fl@gmail.com
Subject: Gold Award

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Dear Commissioner Bobrowski,

I really appreciate your support at the 10/15/24 City Council meeting where you moved to approve the proclamation I worked with the Mayor on for Belle Isle Bat Appreciation Day! I was moved when you said you would like to support the construction of a bat house at a Belle Isle park, and I was hoping we could work together to accomplish that.

If we can collaborate on it, I would propose the construction of the bat house to occur the week of my spring break (03/17-03/21/25) so I can engage my classmates, community members, friends, and family in the construction. I would like to build a bat house that can support the bats of our community, but would like to work with the City to ensure it matches the City's desires as well.

Would you please let me know if you can support this work I propose? The costs of the bat house, labor, planning, etc would be covered by my fundraising efforts through Girl Scouts. I would only need the City to agree to have the bat house constructed on City property and agree to take maintenance of the house.

Please let me know if you have any questions or thoughts on this. Thank you so much for your consideration!

Thank you,

Eli Horwitz