



**CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

Meeting Date: May 7, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: B. Francis, City Manager

Subject: Conceptual Plan for Wallace Field

Background: At the April 24, 2019 Cornerstone Charter Board meeting, the CCA Board approved the conceptual designs for Wallace Field. The plan consists of a building for storage and restrooms, a gate through the wall to the CCA Football Field, benches, a meandering path, fitness stations, bike racks, bat houses, and a community garden (Photos 1 to 6).

The City Council also directed that the City Manager meet with the neighbors near Wallace Field to receive their input on the CCA conceptual designs. The City Manager and District 2 Commissioner Carugno met with the neighbors and the City Manager and the Mayor met with the neighbors a second time. To be clear, Commissioner Carugno and Mayor Fouraker met with the neighbors on different occasions and did not attend the meetings together. At the second meeting, the neighbors reviewed the conceptual design approved by the CCA Board and are requesting the Council consider the following changes to the plan:

1. No building for storage or restrooms
2. No on-site parking, but try to establish limited parking possibly along Wallace Street between Matchett Rd and Randolph Ave.
3. No Community Garden
4. No Fitness Stations
5. Add a fenced area for dogs to run off-leash
6. Add landscaping to attract pollinators (Butterflies and bees).
7. Allow for only a gate through the wall
8. Bat houses and bike racks
9. Adopt the original concept plan (Photos 7 & 8).

Separate from Wallace Field development, but closely linked, the neighbors expressed concern that CCA would use the Wallace right-of-way for access to the lake and they

continue to support the concept of a ramp in this location for emergency personnel only. The question was raised that with the proximity to Randolph Ramp, why can't CCA use that facility for crewing?

Also, according the Use Agreement, "Concept, Site Plan and Improvements Approval. On or before one hundred twenty (120) days after the Effective Date ("Approval Date"), the City and CCA shall consider what concept, site plan and improvements for the Property are acceptable. If the City and CCA, in their respective sole discretions, do not each approve of the same concept, site plan and improvements for the Property on or before the Approval Date, this Agreement terminates on the day after the Approval Date." The Effective Date is January 15, 2019; the 120 day Approval Date is May 15, 2019.

Staff Recommendation: The staff does not have an approval recommendation. There is clearly compromise on both sides. In a recent City survey, we had many responses for a dog park and parking so residents who live in other districts could enjoy the facilities. The staff supports the pollination landscaping in lieu of the gardens and the addition of a dog park. The staff will also look for off-site parking in close proximity to the field. If no decision is made by the City Council, the Council will either have to extend the Approval Date, convene a Special Meeting prior to the Approval Date to continue to discuss the improvements, or let the Agreement terminate. As for extending the Approval Date, the City Attorney can give an opinion on any extension.

Suggested Motion: I move we approve the design concepts for Wallace Field as discussed at tonight's meeting.

Alternatives: Do not approve, but provide further guidance to staff on design..

Fiscal Impact: TBD. Part of the agreement is for CCA to develop the field at their expense.

Attachments: Design concepts 1 to 8



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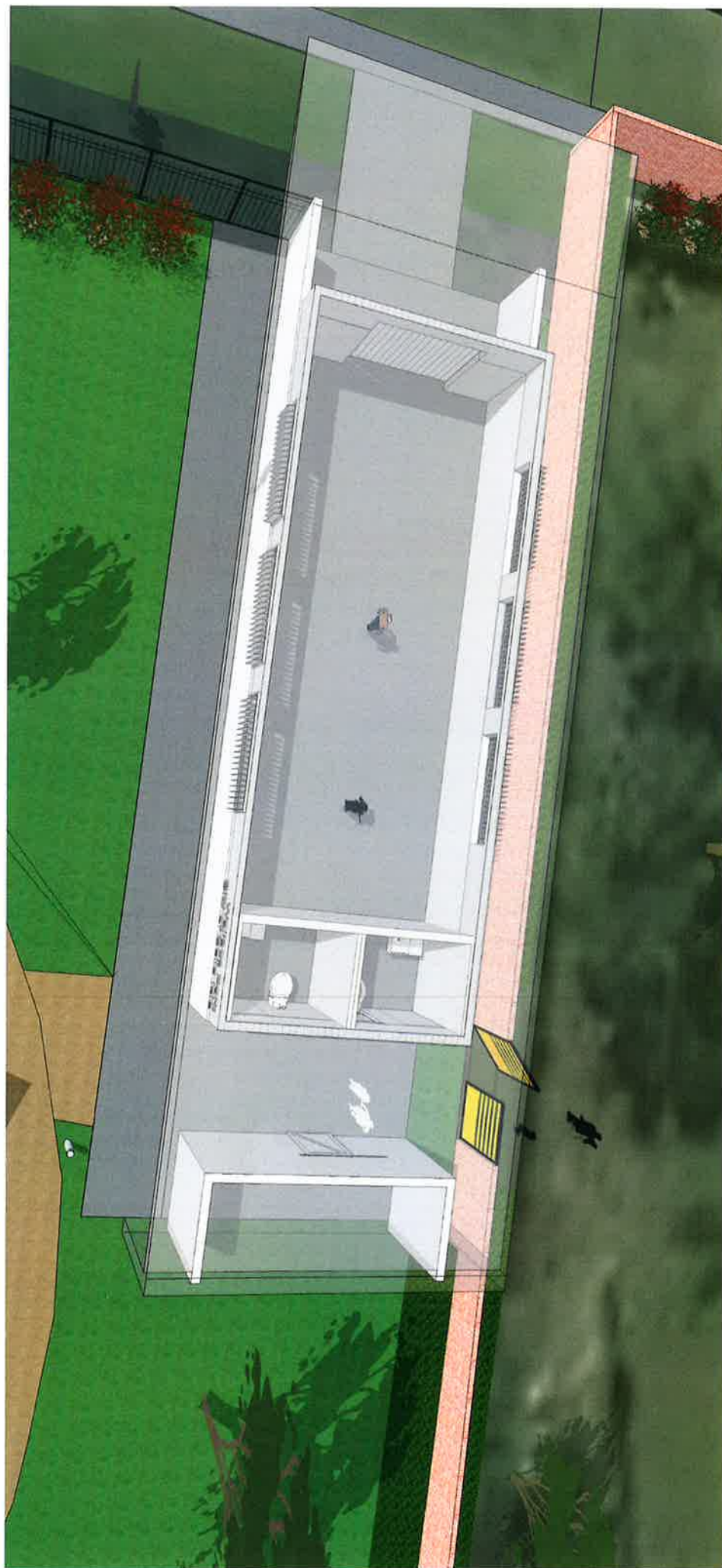




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