



Town of Lake Park Town Commission

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date: December 18, 2024

Agenda Item No.

Agenda Title: Presentation by Palm Beach County on the Lake Park Scrub Natural Area Proposed Public Use Improvements and Management Plan Text Amendments.

[] SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORTS [] CONSENT AGENDA
[] BOARD APPOINTMENT [] OLD BUSINESS
[] ORDINANCE
[X] **NEW BUSINESS**
[] OTHER: RESOLUTION

Approved by Town Manager Bambi McKibbon-Turner

Bambi McKibbon-Turner

Digitally signed by Bambi McKibbon-Turner
DN: cn=Bambi McKibbon-Turner, o=Town of Lake Park,
ou=Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources
Director, email=btturner@lakeparkflorida.gov, c=US
Date: 2024.12.11 11:48:00 -05'00'

Nadia Di Tommaso / Community Development Director

Name/Title

Originating Department: Community Development	Costs: N/A at this time Funding Source: Acct. # [] Finance _____	Attachments: → Powerpoint Presentation by Palm Beach County → Proposed Executive Summary & Text Amendments to the Management Plan → Interlocal Agreement
Advertised: Date: N/A Paper: [] Not Required	All parties that have an interest in this agenda item must be notified of meeting date and time. The following box must be filled out to be on agenda.	Yes I have notified everyone <u>ND</u> OR Not applicable in this case _____ Please initial one.

Summary Explanation/Background:

This request was initiated by Palm Beach County. In 2015, the Town Commission reviewed a request from Palm Beach County regarding the proposed relocation of the planned parking lot improvements and other improvements to the Lake Park Scrub Natural Area. At that time, the Town Commission expressed concerns with the proposed Silver Beach location for the parking lot, and the Town Commission requested that the County revisit the proposal to determine if a northern location along Joule Road could be possible. In light of these discussions, the County missed their deadline for a grant opportunity that would have enabled the improvements to move forward at that time. Recently, the County was presented with a new grant opportunity therefore, they resumed their analysis of the property.

Earlier this year, the previous Town Manager met with County Staff and County Administrator, Verdenia Baker, to discuss the improvements to the Lake Park Scrub Natural Area. Based on the information received at that meeting regarding the inability to construct a parking lot on the north

side (due to line of sight/public safety concerns, elevation differences and larger than expected impacts to the Natural Area), and having to focus on the Silver Beach side to ensure the improvements could move forward, the Town Manager agreed to the County's approach and advised the County to bring this back to the Town Commission for reconsideration.

As part of this agenda item, the County will be re-introducing the proposal and provide explanations on their analysis for the improvements to the Lake Park Scrub Natural Area. Enclosed is a copy of the County's presentation. Once again, the County's timeline is tight and since they recently approached Town Staff with their new plan, Staff decided to place this item on the first available Commission agenda, understanding that the Town Commission's input is not only crucial, but required per the Interlocal Agreement as it relates to the proposed access points. In light of the County's upcoming deadline of February 2025 to submit their grant application that will aim to fund the improvements, the County is seeking consensus from the Town Commission on their proposed improvements. The County also intends on having a public outreach meeting in January 2025 to seek additional feedback. Their preference however is to first ensure that the Town Commission is comfortable with the proposal. The County informed Staff that a formal resolution of support is not needed at this time and that consensus at a public meeting will suffice. Once their grant funds are approved, the improvement plans will be formally routed through the required Town approval process.

Additional Background: In 2003/2004, the Town entered into an Interlocal Agreement with Palm Beach County and the State of Florida on the Lake Park Scrub Natural Area, for which a management plan was created. This management plan remains unchanged until now. It was created to identify the Lake Park Scrub Area as a Conservation site and identifies the overall management activities, monitoring requirements, resource enhancement controls and future structure and improvement requirements. In 2014, PBC ERM and the Town received correspondence from the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) indicating that they were in significant non-compliance of their grant contract since the intended public use facilities outlined in the future structure and improvement requirements of the 2004 management plan, never moved forward.

Consequently, the County submitted an application to the Town proposing improvements in 2015. At that time, the proposed parking lot was being proposed adjacent to Silver Beach Road and PBC DERM had coordinated with PBC Roadway construction to ensure their proposed alignment would be consistent with the Silver Beach roadway improvement plans. The original intent of the Management Plan identified a parking lot along the northern boundary of the Natural Area, adjacent to Joule Road and the future Park Avenue extension road. In an attempt to expedite the improvements and adhere to the FCT grant requirements at that time, the County proposed to construct the public use facilities with access from Silver Beach Road (since the Park Avenue Extension Road had not yet been finalized). In 2015, PBC ERM was still committed to create a future access along the Park Avenue extension road once the extension was completed. However, during the 2024 internal meeting, County Engineers made it clear that future access from the proposed Park Avenue extension is not practicable due to road design requirements and public safety concerns.

Recommended Motion: I MOVE TO ACCEPT THE COUNTY'S REQUEST TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE SCRUB AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE IMPROVEMENTS AS PRESENTED.