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Board of County Commissioners
Leon County, Florida
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Agenda Item
Executive Summary

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

<p>Title: Authorization to Negotiate for Land Donation for the Gum Road Target Area Master Plan and Appropriate Preliminary Project Funding</p>
<p>Staff: Parvez Alam, County Administrator Alan Rosenzweig, Assistant County Administrator Tony Park, Director, Public Works</p>

Issue Briefing:

At the May 11, 2010 meeting, the Board took action to maintain the original Gum Road Target Area Master Plan (TPA) by not allowing a conservation easement to be executed with the Florida Department of Environmental Management. At the meeting, Mr. John Gibby stated that the Gibby Trust may be interested in working with the County in developing the stormwater project, required by the TPA, through a land donation. Subsequent to the May 11 meeting, staff has met with Mr. Gibby to begin this process. At this point in time, preliminary discussions have been positive. In an effort to show good faith on behalf of the County, staff is recommending establishing a preliminary budget for the project that can be utilized for preliminary design, engineering, and planning efforts.

Fiscal Impact:

This item has a fiscal impact. A Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizes \$175,000 toward the Gum Road TPA stormwater/water quality project (Attachment #1).

Staff Recommendation:

- Option #1: Authorize staff to continue to negotiate with the Gibby Trust and develop a written agreement for a land donation.
- Option #2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing \$175,000 for the project.

Report and Discussion

Background:

At the May 11, 2010 meeting, the Board took action to maintain the original Gum Road Target Area Master Plan (TPA) by not allowing a conservation easement to be executed with the Florida Department of Environmental Management. At the meeting, Mr. John Gibby stated that the Gibby Trust may be interested in working with the County in developing the stormwater project required by the TPA through a land donation.

Analysis:

Subsequent to the May 11 meeting, staff has met with Mr. Gibby to begin the process of the County acquiring land through a donation. At this point in time, preliminary discussions have been positive. In exchange for the property, Mr. Gibby has indicated that he would be seeking an easement to Gum Road and the potential for the County's new stormwater facility to include and/or provide capacity for future development on the Gibby property. In addition, the County will evaluate the potential of the stormwater facility being utilized for greenspace credits associated with the future development of the Gibby property. The property donation and associated requirements will be brought back to the Board in a proposed written agreement.

In an effort to show good faith on behalf of the County, staff is recommending establishing a preliminary budget for the project that can be utilized for preliminary design, engineering, and planning efforts. Funding for this project would come through the County's share of the stormwater portion of the sales tax extension. As directed previously by the Board, during the budget process, staff will present a capital improvement project to address the balance of the funding. Total funding required for the project will be contingent upon the final land costs.

Options:

1. Authorize staff to continue to negotiate with the Gibby Trust and develop a written agreement for a land donation.
2. Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing \$175,000 for the project.
3. Accept staff's report and take no further action.
4. Do not authorize staff to continue to negotiate with the Gibby Trust to develop a written agreement for a land donation.
5. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Options #1 and #2.

Attachment:

1. Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request