



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Natural Resources Management Department

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Room 219
Viera, Florida 32940

Inter-Office Memo

TO: Frank B. Abbate, County Manager

THRU: John Denninghoff, P.E., Assistant County Manager

FROM: Virginia Barker, Director, Natural Resources Management

SUBJ: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2024050

DATE: 04/01/2024

CEER #2024050 was received by the County from Terry Mott.

Citizen Statement:

This is my second suggestion and it's related to my first suggestion, which was for Brevard County to create a 3W's Resiliency Campaign 2024. Background information: For several years, as a community volunteer, I've had the awesome privilege of being trained and mentored by Brevard County staff through myriad programs. I've used that training in volunteering for both the County and a number of local nonprofits. I also previously served for several years on my HOA's Board of Directors and on a Committee for my community's master association. I mention this background because from these experiences, I've often observed a them-versus-us attitude between various entities in Brevard: government, businesses, nonprofits, HOA leadership, and private residents, etc.

Citizen Recommendation:

I would like to see a targeted campaign to inspire these entities to work together incorporating a systems approach to resolve the many complex challenges facing Brevard. In some cases there is duplication of efforts where we even have entities competing with each other for the same grants. But if people work together on projects, they are more likely to get larger grant requests approved and also resolve the issues in a more cost-effective manner. As for Brevard's government entities, I would like to see each agency working with the individual HOA Boards when they have any problems within the Board's specific community. And I would also like to see the individual HOA Boards be encouraged to create special ad hoc committees of community volunteers to assist the government entities. I believe using this type of one-voice, one-community focus would be very helpful in the Brevard Natural Resources Management Department's current project to create a stormwater management education program for the Viera East community. Thank you for your consideration.

Staff Analysis:

Natural Resources Management recognizes the value of working together and the importance of working with Homeowners Associations (HOAs) to better manage stormwater ponds. HOAs are responsible for the maintenance and operation of over 4,000 stormwater ponds within the Indian River Lagoon watershed in Brevard County, about ten times as many stormwater ponds as the County.

The Save Our Indian River Lagoon (SOIRL) Program is currently developing a citizen science/outreach program to partner with HOAs to improve stormwater pond management and reduce stormwater inputs to the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). Funding to start this program was added in the 2023 Update to the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan. After program funding was approved, staff began researching other citizen science pond management programs to develop a pilot program for implementation in Brevard. Our program will recruit volunteers from HOAs (that manage at least one stormwater pond) within the IRL watershed of Brevard County. A grant proposal was recently submitted to the IRL Council/Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program to seek additional funding to support a pilot program for this education/outreach campaign.

Additionally, stormwater pollution prevention presentations to adults are conducted as part of the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit compliance. The Brevard County Stormwater Program often conducts presentations at the request of HOAs. Many HOA volunteers are already active in County stormwater pollution prevention efforts, placing storm drain markers throughout our community to further education efforts. The Brevard County Stormwater Program is also working with the Viera East Community Development District (VECDD) on an educational grant for stormwater pond best management practices. Part of the project includes targeted educational outreach to HOAs within the VECDD area. The mission of the grant project is to reduce nutrients in stormwater ponds, prevent erosion, and use green stormwater infrastructure to create buffer zones.

Staff Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept the recommendation with revisions as some programs are already underway and program expansions are currently being developed.

Recommendation Details

Contact Information

Full Name: Terry Mott **Email Address:** terrymott93@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 4899 WEXFORD DR
ROCKLEDGE fl 32955 **Alt Email Address:**

Phone Number 321-223-6943

Group/Organization

N/A

Recommendation Information

Recommendation Title: Brevard County Creating 3 W's Resiliency Campaign 2024

Areas Affected:**Department:**

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I also previously served for several years on my HOA's Board of Directors and on a Committee for my community's master association. I mention this background because from these experiences, I've often observed a them-versus-us attitude between various entities in Brevard: government, businesses, nonprofits, HOA leadership, and private residents, etc.

: I would like to see a targeted campaign to inspire these entities to work together incorporating a systems approach to resolve the many complex challenges facing Brevard. In some cases there is duplication of efforts where we even have entities competing with each other for the same grants. But if people work together on projects, they are more likely to get larger grant requests approved and also resolve the issues in a more cost-effective manner.

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I believe using this type of one-voice, one-community focus would be very helpful in the Brevard Natural Resources Management Department's current project to create a stormwater management education program for the Viera East community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Problem Description:**Recommendation Description****Attachments**

There are no attachments for this recommendation.

Administrative Action

Evaluation

Recommendation Timeline

User	Status	Date	Remarks
RACHEL HORST	Citizen Submitted	Jan 3, 2024	
Karen Conde	Department Assigned	Jan 4, 2024	NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT Assigned

Awaiting action from department director