



Natural Resources Management Department

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: Frank B. Abbate, County Manager

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

FROM: Amanda Elmore, Deputy Director, Natural Resources Management Dept.

SUBJ: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2024027

DATE: 04/01/2024

CEER #2024027 was received by the County from Lora Losi.

Citizen Statement:

As Brevard County experiences more and more growth, the need for dealing with runoff to the lagoon becomes a HUGE problem. Storms can easily cause overflow of existing retention ponds and sewage facilities. This sends fresh water and pollution into the IRL. Just fresh water can damage the delicate, lifegiving salinity of the IRL. Flooding and damage to properties is also inevitable.

Citizen Recommendation:

In the long run BUYING ADDITIONAL AND MAINTAINING WETLANDS would save taxpayers greatly in IRL restoration and property damage. Instituting the use of Low Impact Development techniques for future development would also help.

Staff Analysis:

In 1990, Brevard's citizens voted to tax themselves for the purchase of environmentally sensitive lands. The Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL) has received donations of and/or had mitigation projects on approximately 1,686 acres of land. This total includes 871 acres of wetland mitigation land donations, 161 acres of wetland mitigation projects on EEL-managed lands, and approximately five acres of other land donations of wetlands. In 2022, Brevard County voted to extend the EEL Program for another 20 years. Ballot language read, "...to acquire, improve and maintain wildlife habitat, wetlands, woodlands, and lands that protect Indian River Lagoon and St. Johns River,..."

Main Line: (321) 633-2016

Website: Brevardfl.gov/NaturalResources

Additionally, Brevard County Comprehensive Plan, Conservation Element, Objective 5, entitled Wetlands, establishes policies that address land uses in wetlands - prioritizing the protection of wetlands during development design and permitting reviews and requiring "no net loss" of functional wetlands through mitigation.

In February 2022, Coastal Management Element, Objective 14, entitled Coastal Development and Redevelopment, was adopted into the Comprehensive Plan to address "Peril of Flood" in accordance with Section 163.7138(2)(f)1-6, F.S. These 13 new policies include language that creates procedures to allow consideration of the changing dynamics of flooding, sea level rise, and storm surge in growth management decisions through nature-based design standards and/or Low Impact Development.

Lastly, on February 6, 2024, the Board directed that land acquisition for the EEL Program should have a specific and scientific focus on lands that directly benefit the Indian River Lagoon and St. Johns River. EEL's staff is currently working on implementing this direction.

Staff Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners reject CEER #2024027, as it is already being implemented.

Recommendation #2024027

Recommendation Details

Contact Information

Full Name: Lora Losi **Email Address:** losi.loral@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 6534 Ridge Ct
Titusville fl 32780 **Alt Email Address:** losi.loral@gmail.com

Phone Number 321-313-3121

Group/Organization
space coast audubon

Recommendation Information

Recommendation Title: Control of water flow

Areas Affected: Land and Development planning

Department: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT

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Problem Description:

In the long run BUYING ADDITIONAL AND MAINTAINING WETLANDS would save taxpayers greatly in IRL restoration and property damage.

Recommendation Description

Instituting the use of Low Impact Development techniques for future development would also help.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this recommendation.

Administrative Action

Evaluation

Recommendation Timeline

User	Status	Date	Remarks
CEER WebUser	Citizen Submitted	Dec 27, 2023	

User	Status	Date	Remarks
Karen Conde	Department Assigned	Jan 3, 2024	NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT Assigned

Awaiting action from department director