



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00224

Agenda Date: 6/27/2023

Agenda Item Name:

Parks and Open Space Master Plan Project Priority List

Presenter:

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Description:

Parks and Open Space Master Plan Project Priority List Presentation

Recommended Action:

Approval of the Plan

Prior Board Motions:

February 7, 2023

1. Approve the implementation of the 10 year Land Conservation and Management Plan and strategies as presented.
2. Authorize funding, planning, and construction of the combined field support and office facility for the Land Conservation Program using WSPP surtax funds to the extent permissible.
3. Utilize an 80% Conservation and 20% Recreation split of WSPP infrastructure surtax proceeds to be dedicated to conservation lands and active parks for the 10-year surtax beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2032.
4. Allow staff to utilize the surtax for startup operations and maintenance costs and ask staff to bring back recommendations during the budget process that includes a cap, a transition to General Fund, and a yearly report process recommendation for the Board of County Commission (Board) to consider.
5. Adopt the Alachua County Parks & Open Space Master plan as a visioning document and ask staff to develop for the Board to review and bring back in approximately 90 to 120 days the following:
 - a. An overlay of the County's Bike and Pedestrian Master plan to identify short and midterm opportunities for trail and walkway connectivity.
 - b. Add an equity lens as defined in our Comprehensive Plan and identify short and midterm opportunities to enhance this visioning document.
 - c. Identify existing lands owned by the County that could be utilized in the short term to leverage the implementation of this plan; and work with the Conservation and Management Program to identify future acquisition sites that could be utilized for both Parks & Open Space and Land Conservation 10 year master plans.
 - d. Provide an overlay of municipal parks and county conservation lands, and open space available to the public and bring back recommendations for the visioning document.

Fiscal Note:

The estimated Parks' portion of the new surtax funding is expected to be \$3.3 million in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), and \$3.5 million in FY25. Other funding sources may be available for portions of these projects (boating improvement fund, Parks impact fees, etc.). The estimated total cost for the planned projects for FY23, FY24, and FY25 is \$10.785 million.

Strategic Guide:

Infrastructure

Background:

The Board approved the Parks and Open Space 10-year Master Plan on February 7, 2023. The Recreation and Open Space Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the priority list as presented at their May 11 meeting.

The plan prioritizes projects currently underway, then addresses equity issues as identified in the adopted Master Plan.