



Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 24-00015**

**Agenda Date: 1/9/2024**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreements**

**Presenter:**

Lacy Holtzworth, County Arborist, Environmental Protection Department 352-451-7382  
Andi Christman, Program Manager, Environmental Protection Department 352-264-6803

**Description:**

Three Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreements between Alachua County and: the City of Archer, the City of Waldo, and the School Board of Alachua County.

**Recommended Action:**

Staff recommends the following Board motions:

1. Request Board approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreement #14032 between Alachua County and the City of Archer (Exhibit 1).
2. Request Board approve authorize the Chair to execute the Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreement #14038 between Alachua County and the City of Waldo (Exhibit 2).
3. Request Board approve authorize the Chair to execute the Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreement #14017 between Alachua County and the Alachua County School Board (Exhibit 3). If so moved, staff will forward the Chair-executed agreement to the Alachua County School Board for execution.

**Prior Board Motions:**

On 9/11/2018, the Board approved the Alachua County Tree Planting Program Operating Procedure, and adopted Resolution 18-78 establishing a Tree Sponsorship Policy (Exhibit 4)

**Fiscal Note:**

The Alachua County Tree Planting Program operates utilizing funding from the general fund 001.41.4150.572.46.00, and the Alachua County Tree Mitigation fund 264.41.4150.572.46.00. Adequate funding exists in both funds to support these actions.

There is no additional cost or guaranteed budget commitment for this agreement; the costs are part of the annual tree planting program's regular budget. The County will purchase and plant the trees and the City will provide the long-term maintenance of the planted trees.

**Strategic Guide:**

Environment

**Background:**

The Alachua County Tree Planting Program, managed by the County Arborist, plants trees throughout the County. Since 2018, the program has planted and is maintaining 1,116 trees, including plantings in all 9 municipalities. Building on the successes of the program over the past 5 years, the tree planting program now enters into the next 5-year period, with continued focus on the following priority planting areas as established in the Board in the Tree Planting Program Operating Procedure, and assessment of longer-term goals for community.

To expand on program successes and further increase local community support and buy-in, staff recommends pursuing establishment of Interlocal Agreements between the County and each municipality, as well as with the Alachua County School Board to offer more comprehensive tree planning, planting and tree preservation assistance and guidance.

The first of these interlocal agreements (#14032), with the City of Archer, is presented for execution (Exhibit 1). The agreement was executed by the City of Archer Commission on November 13, 2023.

The second agreement (#14038), with the City of Waldo, is presented for execution (Exhibit 2). This Agreement was executed by the Waldo City Commission on November 14, 2023.

The County Arborist has presented an interlocal agreement (#14017) to the Alachua County School Board staff, and the agreement is attached as Exhibit 3. The School Board requests that the Board of County Commissioners execute the agreement prior to execution by the School Board.