



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 25-00627**

**Agenda Date: 8/12/2025**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreements with City of Hawthorne and City of High Springs**

**Presenter:**

Lacy Holtzworth, County Arborist, Environmental Protection Department 352-451-7382

Andi Christman, Program Manager, Environmental Protection Department 352-264-6803

**Description:**

Two Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreements between Alachua County and: the City of Hawthorne, the City of High Springs.

**Recommended Action:**

Staff recommends the following Board motions:

1. Request Board approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreement #14037 between Alachua County and the City of High Springs (Exhibit 1).
2. Request Board approve authorize the Chair to execute the Tree Sponsorship Interlocal Agreement #14713 between Alachua County and the City of Hawthorne (Exhibit 2).

**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 3)

**Fiscal Note:**

The Alachua County Tree Planting Program operates utilizing funding from the general fund 001.41.4150.572.46.60, 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 1,630 trees, including plantings in all 9 municipalities. Building on the successes of the program over the past 7 years, the tree

planting program now enters into the next operational period, with continued focus on the 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 continue pursuing establishment of Interlocal Agreements between the County and each municipality, to offer more comprehensive tree planning, planting and tree preservation assistance and guidance. In 2024, agreements were established with the City of Archer, the City of Waldo, and the Alachua County School Board.

The fourth of these interlocal agreements (#14037), with the City of High Springs, is presented for execution (Exhibit 1). The agreement was executed by the City of High Springs Mayor.

The fifth agreement (#14713), with the City of Hawthorne, is presented for execution (Exhibit 2). This Agreement was executed by the City of Hawthorne Mayor.