



CITY OF GAINESVILLE

Department of Economic Development

November 04, 2005

Joseph McGarrity, SSA Coordinator
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Waste Management Division
Bureau of Waste Cleanup
2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 4535
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Mr. McGarrity:

I am writing in support of the City of Gainesville's Site Specific Activities (SSA) application for the former Rinker/CSX property. This property is part of the Depot Park project, a much-anticipated brownfield rehabilitation initiative that will restore contaminated real property as a stormwater treatment facility and urban parkland.

SSA assistance for the former Rinker/CSX site will help the Depot Avenue neighborhood move beyond the stigma of contamination to a future ripe with possibilities. The environmental impacts, while relatively low risk, need to be addressed in order to integrate this site with an adjacent tract designated for use as a public park. Once the contamination is addressed, the site will become part of the park which will help mitigate urban stormwater impacts that currently affect downstream aquatic systems linked to the Floridan Aquifer. The restoration plan also includes the creation of scenic walking trails, bike paths and native greenery for public enjoyment.

This transformation, aided by SSA assistance, will ultimately enhance the quality of life for people living in the surrounding residential neighborhoods and will also strengthen the economic future of downtown Gainesville.

Sincerely,

Erik A. Bredfeldt
Director



CITY OF GAINESVILLE

Department of Recreation and Parks

November 3, 2005

Mr. Joseph McGarrity, SSA Coordinator
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Waste Management Division
Bureau of Waste Cleanup
2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 4535
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Mr. McGarrity:

I am writing to support the City of Gainesville's Site Specific Activities (SSA) application for the former Rinker/CSX property. This property is part of the Depot Park project, a much-anticipated city park project planned for a former industrial property currently designated in the state Brownfield Program.

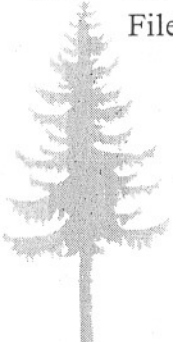
SSA assistance for the former Rinker/CSX site will help the Depot Avenue neighborhood move beyond the stigma of contamination to realize a major public green space. The environmental impacts, while relatively low risk, need to be addressed in order to integrate this site with an adjacent tract designated for use as a public park. Once the contamination is addressed, the site will become part of the park which is planned to feature scenic walking trails, bike paths and native greenery for public enjoyment.

This transformation, aided by SSA assistance, will ultimately expand the availability of park and recreation space to improve the quality of life for people living in the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

David L. Flaherty
Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Cc: Matt Dube
File





CITY OF GAINESVILLE

Department of Community Development

November 16, 2005

Joseph McGarrity, SSA Coordinator
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Waste Management Division
Bureau of Waste Cleanup
2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 4535
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Mr. McGarrity:

I am writing on behalf of the Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency Downtown Redevelopment Advisory Board in support of the City of Gainesville's Site Specific Activities (SSA) application for the former Rinker/CSX property. This property is part of the Depot Park project and a former industrial property currently designated in the state Brownfield Program. The project is also located within the Downtown Redevelopment District and will be eligible for tax increment financing.

SSA assistance will help the Depot Avenue neighborhood revitalize this site and transcend the legacy of contamination to build a new public green space. The environmental impacts, while relatively low risk, need to be addressed in order to integrate this site with an adjacent tract designated as central to the Depot Park project. Once the contamination is addressed, the site will become part of the park which will feature scenic walking trails, bike paths and native greenery for public enjoyment.

This transformation, aided by SSA assistance, will ultimately expand the availability of park and recreation space as well as increase redevelopment potential to improve the quality of life for people living in the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Angela Pate
Chair

Downtown Redevelopment Advisory Board
Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency