

March 15, 2012

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Gainesville Florida City Commission
VIA: Hand delivery

CITY OF GAINESVILLE
CITY COMMISSION
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Honorable Mayor Lowe and Gainesville City Commissioners:

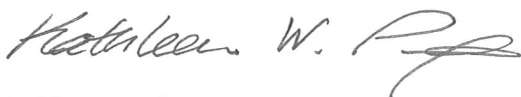
I would like to voice my support for the efforts of the Stephen Foster neighborhood to create a unified approach to the post-remediation landscape management. The Agenda item on March 15 is "Koppers Off-Site Surface Soils Remediation Enhancement." I attended some meetings in September 2011 about this effort organized by "Protect Gainesville Citizens, Inc.," and I am pleased that UF faculty maybe assisting the Stephen Foster neighborhood. The community will benefit in aesthetic and ecological ways I think.

While I am unable to attend the March 15 meeting due to work responsibilities, I will continue to participate as possible in the public process, following 10 years thus far. Like many neighboring residents I have a major investment in my home, and in my professional opinion as a land use planner the NW 6th Street corridor neighborhoods in the vicinity of the Superfund site are showing evidence of blight. The requested Remediation Enhancement offers the possibility of reversing this trend and beginning a renewal of the larger environs surrounding the site per se.

It is always sad to hear accounts of deaths from illnesses possibly exacerbated by the site pollution. I am aware of one person who has lived a long life in the area—only leaving during one year. This elderly neighbor in Pine Park, where I live, just to the south of NW 23th Street, recalls a 'coquina gate' on NW 6th Street, and also spoke of Mrs. Springsted. I realized the creek maybe named for a local family. Here is the material located by staff at the Matheson Museum regarding the Springsted family:

1. 1948 telephone directory: Springstead, HW Mrs. 234 Wakulla Av
2. 1950 telephone directory: Springstead, HW Mrs. 112 NW 19th Street
3. Gainesville City Directory 1942-1943
 - a. Springstead Annie W Mrs bkpr Defense Courses U of Fla r 407 E Orange
 - b Springsstead Henry W (Annie W) r 407 E Orange
4. Gainesville City Directory 1953-1954
 - a. Springstead Annie W (wid Henry W) chf clk U of Fla, h 112 NW 19th
 - b. Spriingstead John W, student, r 112 NW 19th

I urge support for the efforts of the Stephen Foster neighborhood, technical adviser Dr. Pat Kline, and Mr. Glenn Acomb, FASLA, to enhance the post-remediation neighborhood landscapes. It is very important to move the process forward soon. Thanks for considering my views.



Kathleen Walston Pagan
Resident, Pine Park neighborhood