University of Florida Foundation, Inc.

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February 11, 2000

Gainesville City Commission City Hall Gainesville, FL 32601

RE:

Tax Parcel # 06023-003-004

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

On your agenda on February 14 are Petition 147LUC-99 PB and Petition 149ZON-99 PB. Recall that you deferred action on these petitions in December, and again in January. The above parcel is one of several covered by the above petitions. Since the initial deferral, I have had several conversations with city planning and legal staff, yet we have not reached complete agreement on the appropriate land use and zoning designations for this property. You will recall the old county land use designation for the parcel was Recreation, the planning staff recommendation was Agriculture, and the Plan Board recommendation was Conservation. Our concern has been the effect of these proposed land use designations on the value of the property.

I have also met with officials from the Parks and Recreation Division of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to discuss the potential of a sale of the subject parcel to the state as an addition to the Devil's Millhopper park.

The University of Florida Foundation, Inc. requests that the City of Gainesville delete the above parcel from the pending land use and zoning petitions, leaving the county land use and zoning in place. In exchange, the Foundation will proceed to offer the property to FDEP as an addition to Devil's Millhopper. While this will be a tedious process with no guarantee of success, the Foundation has completed dozens of transactions with FDEP and believes we have a good chance of succeeding. The property will not be offered for sale to others unless this process fails.

Leaving the old county designations in place will eliminate the value and taking concerns we have. If the state purchases the property, the issue would be moot. If the state does not purchase the property, the Foundation will notify the city and we can then address the land use and zoning issues.

Shicerery yours,

Bruce DeLaney

Director of Real Estate

cc:

W. Bowers

M. Radson

K. Lannon

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