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City of Gainesville

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Member of the City Commission

August 24, 1998

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Commission and Charter Officers
From: Pegeen Hanrahan, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem
Subject: Depot Avenue Stormwater Park Brownfield Grant (East Gainesville Sprout Project)

Over the past few weeks I have been increasingly concerned with administration of the above-referenced project. This grant was received in Spring of 1997 and in my view the progress to date has not been as significant as it should be. In an effort to accelerate the progress and ensure that the original vision is followed through, I would like to suggest the following actions:

(1). The original grant application called for formation of a "Sprout Project Task Force." It is well past time that this group be convened to provide direction to the staff and commission. Because of my special concern in this project, I would like to volunteer as the Commission's liaison to this group, and serve as a voting member. In the interest of forming a powerful and energetic team, I am taking the bold step of suggesting the following membership:

Chris Bird** --- Director of Alachua County Environmental Protection Department

Stephen Boyes** --- Property owner in the area, Environmental Geologist, Member of the Development Review Board

Mark Brown --- Wetlands scientist, professor of Environmental Engineering, has studied this site and is working on a redesign of the Duckpond system

Linda Crider** --- Bicycle advocate, lives along the trail, professor of Urban and Regional Planning

Brad Guy** --- "Green" Architect, member of the City Plan Board, Project Manager for a community visioning process for the area

Michael Leath --- Resident and volunteer in the Porter's neighborhood

Susan Mikolaitis** --- Resident of SE 4th Avenue, Civil Engineer with QST Environmental

Linda McGurn** --- Property owner in the area, has attended conferences on Brownfields

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Carla Palmer --- Chief Engineer with the St. Johns River Water Management District, has designed stormwater parks in Orlando

Janie Williams --- Resident and volunteer in the Porter's neighborhood

** Means that these individuals have tentatively agreed to serve pending commission approval.

In addition, I believe that one problem with the project has been that we are not fully using the expertise and enthusiasm of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. I would like to request that the commission authorize the City Manager to negotiate the formal participation of ACEPD in the administration of the Brownfield project with the County. This should be part of the on-going discussions on an interlocal agreement between the city and county for environmental review of development projects. I would like this to be brought back to the City Commission as soon as possible, preferably at the meeting of September 14th.

Thank you for your continuing support of this project. Having had the opportunity to accept the grant from Vice President Gore on then-Mayor Bruce Delaney's behalf, I have special concern that we make this project a top priority.