

Legislation Text

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## Status Update on the City Commission Strategic Initiative to Complete Capital Projects at Parks - Improve Land Conservation and Acquisition Program (B)

This item is a request for the City Commission to approve placing additional parcels on the acquisition priority list.

This Strategic Initiative is closely tied to Legislative File #080128, Update on the Wild Spaces Public Places One-Half Cent Sales Tax Initiative's Implementation Plan for Capital Improvement Projects and Sensitive Lands Acquisition, which was presented to the City Commission on September 17, 2009, when funding priorities for the projects were approved.

As part of this Initiative, the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works (RCAPW) Committee has heard updates from staff on both the Capital Improvement Projects and land acquisition. During these updates the RCAPW committee reviewed the Priority Land Acquisition table and recommended that staff continue to evaluate and update the priority list as new areas become available.

Recently the State Department of Environmental Protection notified the City of Gainesville about lands that it intends to surplus. Included in the parcels targeted for surplus by the State were a number of parcels that are adjacent to City-owned conservation properties. In addition, properties adjacent to lands targeted for acquisition also became available. Staff has reviewed the parcels, and recommends that the priority list for Conservation and Acquisition be updated to include these parcels: 08197-000-000, 08191-000-000, 17771-000-000, 17759-000-000, 17782-001-000, 10885-000-000, 17911-000-000, 17910-000-000; 17945-000-000, 17895-000-000.

Approximately \$2.24 million remains in the Greenspace Acquisition Fund and in the Wild Spaces Public Places Land Acquisition Fund, and is available for continued acquisition of conservation and/or passive recreation lands.

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee recommends that the City Commission add the newly identified parcels to the acquisition priority list.