

City of Gainesville

City Hall 200 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Legislation Text

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Reallocation of Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) funds for Lincoln Yard Trail Project (B)

This item is a request to reallocate Wild Spaces Public Places funds for park construction at the Lincoln Yard Trail Project (tax parcels #16085 and 16107)

In November 2012, the City Commission approved the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Vision 2020 Master Plan. During 2013 to 2015, citizens and staff worked together on the development of a specific list of projects referenced in the Master Plan.

On February 18, 2016, the City Commission approved a list of 99 potential projects and the prioritized list of projects with cost estimates. The Voter Referendum on the WSPP passed on November 8, 2016 and the collection of the one-half cent sales tax began on January 1, 2017 continuing through December 31, 2024. It is expected to generate \$46,551,152 in revenue to the City.

On April 19, 2018, a list of FY18-20 projects was approved by the City Commission. The list included \$200,000 for the design, permitting and construction of a park and trail at the Lincoln Yard property. In 2018, Staff worked with a design team and the community to establish a master plan for the site. The master plan promotes health, safety, and design excellence, as requested by the community. Implementation of Phase One of the master plan, the northern 5-acres of the site, stretching from SE 8th Ave to SE 10th Place, just east of SE 20th Street, is estimated to cost \$300,000. To support the projected construction costs, staff is requesting the addition of \$165,000 to the project budget.

On January 10, 2019, the General Policy Committee heard a presentation by WSPP Staff on the Lincoln Yard Trail project and the requested funds reallocation.

The Wild Spaces Public Places sales tax was approved by voters for eight years and is expected to generate \$46,551,152 in revenue to the City. This project was approved by the City Commission for funding in the amount of \$200,000. This is a request to reallocate \$90,000 project savings from the WSPP Thomas Center renovation project, and allocate \$75,000 from unappropriated WSPP funds to be used for Lincoln Yard Trail construction.

The City Commission: 1) Approve the reallocation of \$90,000 from the WSPP Thomas Center renovation project to be used for Lincoln Yard Trail construction. 2) Approve the allocation of \$75,000 from unappropriated WSPP funds to be used for Lincoln Yard Trail construction.