Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: September 16, 2008

Agenda Item No. 3(J)(1)(B)

To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Grant Application to Purchase Land for a Passive Recreational Park in the Princeton Lakeside Area

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Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached resolution ratifying the action of the County Mayor's designee in applying for up to $706,563 in grant funds from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for a Florida Communities Trust (FCT), Florida Forever Program Grant to purchase up to 7.91 acres of land (2 parcels) for a passive recreational park in the Princeton Lakeside area, and further authorizing the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to receive and expend funds and execute contracts and amendments as required.

Scope

The land is located at S.W. 240 Street and S.W. 137 Avenue within the unincorporated area of Miami-Dade County, in Commission District 8.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

This grant will contribute up to $706,563 toward the cost of the acquisition project. The required match of $286,000 will be available from Impact Fees and is estimated to be 28.81% of the total project cost of $992,563.

Track Record/Monitor

The FCT awarded the Park and Recreation Department (MDPR) a grant of $1,200,000 for land acquisition at Camp Matecumbe in FY 2002-03. That grant project was completed in September 2003. The MDPR Grants Administrator will have responsibility for administering the proposed grant.

Background

FCT's Florida Forever Program is a State land acquisition grant program. This program provides funding to local governments and eligible non-profit environmental organizations to acquire land for community-based parks, open space and greenways that expand outdoor recreation and natural resource protection needs identified in local government comprehensive plans.

MDPR received notice about this funding opportunity in late April 2008. The grant proposal deadline was May 7, 2008. If the application is successful funds will become available in September 2008.

Attachment

Alex Muñoz
Assistant County Manager

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 16, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 3(J)(1)(B)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised**

_____ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**

_____ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**

_____ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**

_____ **Budget required**

_____ **Statement of fiscal impact required**

_____ **Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)**

✓ **No committee review**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 3(J)(1)(B)
9-16-08

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ACTION OF THE COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE IN APPLYING FOR UP TO $706,563 IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, FLORIDA COMMUNITIES TRUST, FLORIDA FOREVER PROGRAM TO PURCHASE UP TO 7.91 ACRES OF LAND FOR A PASSIVE RECREATIONAL PARK IN THE PRINCETON LAKESIDE AREA, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDS, AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS AS REQUIRED

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purpose outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board ratifies the action of the County Mayor's designee in applying for up to $706,563 in grant funds from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Communities Trust, Florida Forever Program to purchase up to 7.91 acres of land for a passive recreational park in the Princeton Lakeside area, and further authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to execute such contracts and amendments as are required by this governmental body following approval by the County Attorney's Office; to receive and expend all monies for the purposes described in the funding request; and to file and execute any necessary amendments to the agreement for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman
Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman

Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Dennis C. Moss
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of September, 2008. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Martin W. Sybblis

Florida Communities Trust — Application Form FCT-4

Florida Forever Program

1. PROJECT NAME Princeton Lakeside Park
(Descriptive project name)

2. APPLICANT NAME Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department
(Name of Local Government or Nonprofit Environmental Organization)
***If Nonprofit Environmental Organization**, also provide the required information requested on Exhibits M and N.*

3. PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION

Is this a Partnership Application between two or more Local Governments or Nonprofit Environmental Organizations?
YES ____ **NO** X
*If **yes**, provide the name(s) of the Local Government(s) or Nonprofit Environmental Organization(s). Also, provide an application transmittal letter from the partnering agency.*

4. KEY CONTACT PERSON

***Note:** The key contact is required to be an employee of the Local Government or designated representative of the Nonprofit Environmental Organization. Identify only one key contact person.*

Key Contact Name Alissa (First) Turtletaub (Last) (Middle Initial)

Title Park Planner III

Department/Nonprofit Environmental Organization Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Dept.

Mailing Address 275 NW 2nd Street, 4th Floor

City Miami, FL Zip Code 33128

Phone Number (305) 755-7952 Fax Number (305) 755-7864

E-mail Address Alissa@miamidade.gov

Chief Administrator for the Local Government

Name George M. Burgess, County Manager Phone Number (305) 375-5311

***Note**: If the Applicant's principal office address is a post office box, a delivery address is also required.*

Delivery Address **N/A**
City ____, FL Zip Code ____

5. PROJECT SITE LOCATION

County Miami-Dade Section 23 Township 56S Range 39E
***Note:** Cite only **one** Section, Township and Range to indicate where all or most of the project acreage is located. Include all directional designations (Township either North or South – Range either East or West).*

6. TOTAL PROJECT ACREAGE

Indicate the approximate acreage of the Project Site. 5 7.91 Acres

7. ACQUISITION TYPE

The Applicant **must** fill out one or more of the following acquisition types, as appropriate.

The use of *condemnation* or the *threat of condemnation* is not considered a Voluntarily-Negotiated Transaction. Parcels acquired under these conditions do not qualify for Acquisition or Reimbursement under the FCT program.

_____ **PRE-ACQUIRED**
The entire Project Site has been Pre-acquired by the Applicant through a Voluntarily-Negotiated Transaction within **24 months** prior to the application deadline.

_____ **PARTIAL PRE-ACQUIRED**
A portion of the Project Site has been Pre-acquired by the Applicant through a Voluntarily-Negotiated Transaction within **24 months** prior to the application deadline.

_____ **REIMBURSEMENT ACQUISITION**
The entire Project Site or the remaining un-acquired parcel(s) in the Project Site will be acquired by the Applicant through a Voluntarily-Negotiated Transaction and will be reimbursed by FCT after the Acquisition is completed.

___X___ **JOINT ACQUISITION**
The entire Project Site or remaining un-acquired parcel(s) will be a Joint Acquisition with both FCT and the Applicant participating in the Acquisition process.

___1___ Number of separate ownerships to be acquired within the Project Site.

***Note**: For a Project Site that consists of **eleven or more ownerships**, the Applicant will be required to act as the lead party responsible for the Acquisition activities.*

8. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS

Enter an amount on each line and round to the nearest hundred dollars.

a.	**Land purchase price** (estimated or actual) **based on Miami-DadeCounty Property Appraiser market value estimate)*	$ 972,563 (estimated)*
b.	**Acquisition costs** (estimated or actual) Cost of certified survey(s), appraisal(s), appraisal review(s), title report(s), title insurance premium(s), environmental audit(s), and Applicant's acquisition agent(s) fees or commission.	$ 20,000 (estimated)
c.	**Total Project Costs [Add a. and b.]**	$ 992,563

9. AWARD AMOUNT AND MATCH

		Dollar Amount	Percentage of Award
a.	**FCT grant award amount** (1)	$ 706,563	71.19% (2 decimal places)
b.	**Match amount** (2)	$ 286,000	28.81% (2 decimal places)
c.	**Total Project Costs [Add a. and b.] (Should equal 8.c above)**	$ 992,563	100 %

(1) The total amount of any Award or combination of Awards applied for by any Local Government(s) or Nonprofit Environmental Organization(s) under any Application(s) or Partnership Application(s) for any project(s) shall not exceed ten percent of the total Florida Forever Funds advertised as available for award in the Notice of Application Period announcing the cycle. In no case shall any Applicant be awarded more than $10 million during any one cycle.

(2) A 25% minimum Match is required except for Awards to counties with a population of 75,000 or fewer, municipalities with a population of 10,000 or fewer, and qualified Nonprofit Environmental Organizations. Florida Forever Funds cannot be used as Match.

6

10. SOURCE OF MATCH

Check the appropriate response(s) below to indicate eligible source(s) of Match:

___X___ Existing or future cash from the Applicant.
_____ Value of real property owned by the Applicant in a qualified pre-acquisition.
Note: *Include lands within the Project Site that were Pre-acquired within 24 months prior to the application deadline that are to be used as part of the Match.*
_____ Cash or grant from federal, state, regional, county, municipal, or other agency.
_____ Cash from a private Donation.
_____ Value of real property donated by the landowner in a documented bargain sale or Donation agreement.

Note: If the source of the Match is from a third party, provide documentation indicating source and amount.

11. OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Have you applied for funding or received other grant funding for Acquisition for this project through another federal, state, regional, county, municipal, or other land acquisition program(s) or agency(s)?
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes,** provide the name(s) of the agency(s) or land acquisition program(s) to which you have applied or received funding.*

An application was submitted (April 2008) to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways and Trails for the Land Acquisition Program. The application request is for the acquisition of 11.63-acres (4 parcels) of land to create the Princeton Lakeside Park. The Miami-Dade Park & Recreation department has been advised that the application is under review and a decision is expected by end of May 2008 or June 2008.

If you have or will receive other grant funds for the Acquisition of the Project Site, please provide a table listing the:

Acquisition cost for the Project Site; **N/A**
Funds the Applicant provided towards the acquisition costs; **N/A**
Funds from other sources used in the Acquisition; **N/A** and
The appraised value of the Project Site. **N/A**

12. COMMUNITY PROFILE

Provide the following information for the Local Government where the Project Site is located.

Approximately __2,431_____ square miles. Population: ____2,462,292_____

Note: *Use the latest estimate of resident population from the most recent edition of Florida Estimates of Population, as published by the Population Division, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida.*

If the Project Site is located in the **unincorporated county** – complete the following information (use approximate percentages):

Percentages provided below reflect land use data in unincorporated Miami-Dade County inside the Urban Development Boundary (excluding Bay and Ocean Water).

Existing land uses in the County are ___38___ percent residential, ___7.6___ percent recreation/open space, __3.7___ percent industrial, __3.8____ percent commercial, and __3.9____ percent agricultural.
Percentages provided above reflect land use data in unincorporated Miami-Dade County inside the Urban Development Boundary (excluding Bay and Ocean Water).

If the Project Site is located in an **incorporated municipality** – complete the following information (use approximate percentages): **N/A**
The municipality is approximately _____ percent built out. Existing land uses are _____ percent residential land, _____ percent recreation/open space, _____ percent industrial, _____ percent commercial, and _____ _ percent vacant.

7

13.SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following supplemental information:

a. The Florida House of Representatives district number that includes the Project Site: 118
b. The Florida Senate district number that includes the Project Site: 38
c. The Regional Planning Council that includes the Project Site: South Florida Regional Planning Council
d. The Water Management District that includes the Project Site: South Florida Water Management District

OWNERSHIP AND ACQUISITION PLAN

List all property owners and parcel tax identification numbers for all parcels. If the project has been Pre-acquired, provide the closing date and a copy of the signed closing statement on Exhibit P.

An Acquisition Plan is required for Project Sites with multiple parcels or owners to identify the priority parcel(s) and the general acquisition order of other parcels to ensure that, in the event that all parcels cannot be acquired, the purposes of the project can be achieved.

List the specific order in which the parcels in the project will be acquired. Acquisition of the Project Site will begin with the priority 1 parcel(s). Parcels may be grouped by priority and more than one parcel may be categorized as priority 1, 2, 3, etc.

The use of *condemnation* or the *threat of condemnation* is not considered a Voluntarily-Negotiated Transaction. Parcels acquired under these conditions do not qualify for Acquisition or Reimbursement under the FCT program.

Requirement: Provide a **willing owner letter for all parcels listed** below (Exhibit O).

Priority	Owner's Name	Parcel Tax ID Number	Date of Closing
1	K.J. Cornelison, Robert G. Willoughby, Jr., & Linda C. Willoughby	30-6923-000-0780	
	Owner's Mailing Address 6611 Ava Dr, Jacksonville, Florida 32211		Phone

Priority	Owner's Name	Parcel Tax ID Number	Date of Closing
2	K.J. Cornelison, Robert G. Willoughby, Jr.,& Linda C. Willoughby	30-6923-000-0535	
	Owner's Mailing Address 6611 Ava Dr, Jacksonville, Florida 32211		Phone

Priority	Owner's Name	Parcel Tax ID Number	Date of Closing
	Owner's Mailing Address		Phone

Use additional pages if needed

8

PROJECT SUMMARY

Purposes of the project: Miami-Dade County's Park and Recreation Department seeks FCT funds for a joint acquisition of 7.91 acres for the purposes of developing Princeton Lakeside Park, a neighborhood park and trailhead for the South Dade Greenways Network.

Existing and future uses: The site was originally owned by the Florida East Coast Railway and used as a rock quarry. It was sold to Boy Scouts of America who used it for programming until the 1960's when it was purchased by the current private owner(s) who used it as a residential site for the past 50 years. It is currently located in an industrial area adjacent to the County's Urban Development Boundary. In 2005 the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners approved Princeton Community Urban Centre District designating the site as a "lakeside park" in their master plan and rezoning the surrounding area for residential development.

The property is ideally located for the development of a future park as it is adjacent to the C-102 canal or blueway, and the Princeton Trail, which also provides connectivity to the South Dade Trail and greater South Dade Greenway Network, as well as the busway on South Federal Highway. The development of a neighborhood park on the site would primarily provide for easily accessible recreational opportunities for residents and visitors in the Princeton area, secure open green space for future residents (an estimated 68,000 additional residents), provide a resource for nature excursions for local youth group organizations and schools, and serve as a trailhead for the Princeton Trail connecting to the greater South Dade Greenways Network. The site is also located on bike routes approved within the Princeton Community Urban Centre District. Acquisition of the two parcels would also help to secure a greenbelt along the Urban Development Boundary, helping to provide a buffer between the developed and rural areas of Miami-Dade County.

Existing and proposed physical improvements: The site contains a lake that will be the central core for the park's development. There is an existing vacant residential structure and two vacant outbuildings on the site that could potentially be renovated to serve as a park administrative office facility and/or storage facilities (pending inspection and complete renovation costs). Proposed special physical improvements to the site will include the installation of trailside facilities including: lighting, water fountains, signage/information kiosk with trail information, maps and safety tips. Other general park improvements include:

- a multi-use trail that would span .29 miles around the lake,
- fitness course,
- playground,
- fishing pier and wildlife observation deck with interpretative signage,
- perches to encourage the presence of raptors (osprey, red-shouldered hawks and the southeastern American kestrel),
- canoe/kayak launch,
- picnic shelter with site furniture (benches, picnic tables, garbage cans, etc.),
- designated parking area, and
- access control.

Natural and historic resources: The site's natural habitat has remained undisturbed for several years. The scattered pineland and hammock preserves in the vicinity of the site along with the opportunity to preserve the open water resource and green space provides for an excellent opportunity to sustain a natural habitat for reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, as well as an attractive stopover point for migratory bird species. The lake is suitable for inhabitation by ducks and wading birds. An American alligator, listed as a Species of Special Concern by the State, has also been previously observed in the lake.

Resource protection and enhancement activities: The entire circumference of the lake is ideal for wetland restoration. Exotic invasive species will be removed from the site, especially around the edge of the lake. The edge and slope of the lake will be replanted with wetland and other appropriate species such as sawgrass, muhly grass, leather fern, dahoon holly, cabbage palm, and cocoplum, to attract various reptiles and amphibians. Carefully chosen native species will be planted to enhance native vegetation on portions throughout the site to attract various forms of wildlife. Trees, shrubs, and grasses will provide shelter, foraging, perching, and nesting opportunities for many species of birds.

The Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR) would be responsible for ongoing oversight and maintenance of resource protection and enhancement activities for Princeton Lakeside Park. MDPR currently manages more than 12,000 acres, roughly half of which are environmentally sensitive or threatened natural areas requiring protection and conservation.

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PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA

Answer the following questions, as applicable to the proposed project. Where requested, provide references to the Local Comprehensive Plan, support documentation or attached Exhibits.

Note**: Provide a response to each of the following criteria, either yes or no. If the answer to a criterion is checked **no**, move to the next question. If the answer to a criterion is checked **yes**, provide a response as appropriate and limit your response to **no more than ½ page**. **Any criterion that is not addressed or is left blank will not be evaluated and no points will be awarded.

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(1) GENERAL CRITERIA SECTION

(a) Pre-acquired project: Has the **entire** Project Site been Pre-acquired by the Applicant within 24 months prior to the application deadline? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a copy of the closing statement on Exhibit P.*

(b) Is the Project Site part of a Phased Project that was previously acquired with FCT funds? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, identify the project number of the previously funded FCT project and describe the phased nature of the project.*

(c) The Applicant is committed to providing:
Check yes to only one of the following, if applicable.

(1) Local Government (medium to large):
Counties with a population of more than 75,000, municipalities with a population of more than 10,000.

a. A Match of 40 to 49% of the total Project Costs. (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__

b. A Match of 50 to 59% of the total Project Costs. (20 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__

c. A Match of 60% or more of the total Project Costs. (25 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__

(2) Small Local Government or Nonprofit Environmental Organization: Counties with a population of 75,000 or less, municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less.

N/A

a. A Match of 10 to 19% of the total Project Costs. (10 points) **N/A**
YES ____ **NO** _____

b. A Match of 20 to 29% of the total Project Costs. (20 points) **N/A**
YES ____ **NO** _____

c. A Match of 30% or more of the total Project Costs. (25 points) **N/A**
YES ____ **NO** _____

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(d) Is this the Applicant's first Application to FCT or has the Applicant submitted previous Application(s) none of which were funded or if funded, no parcels were ever acquired? (5 points)
Note: *In the case of a Partnership Application, refer to the Application Instruction Guide.*
YES ____ NO __X__

(e) Will the project provide an alternative to the fee simple acquisition of land through the acquisition of conservation easement(s)? (5 points)
YES ____ NO __X__
*If **yes**, locate the proposed area to be acquired in less than fee on Exhibit D, discuss the type and purpose of the conservation easement, and provide a letter from the owner expressing his willingness to sell a conservation easement over the parcel.*

(2) OUTDOOR RECREATION, NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES SECTION

This section identifies whether Acquisition of the Project Site furthers the provision of Outdoor Recreation facilities and open space and the preservation of natural and cultural resources. All proposed recreation facilities are required to be designed with as minimal disturbance as possible to natural resources on the Project Site.

(a) Outdoor Recreation and Open Space

1. Will the project provide Outdoor Recreation area or open space adjacent to existing publicly-owned upland area, such as an existing park, museum, school, library, or public affordable housing complex? (5 points)

YES __X__ NO _____
*If **yes**, identify adjacent existing publicly-owned upland area and locate the parcel on Exhibit K or other appropriate exhibit. Discuss how the adjacent parcel will be linked with the Project Site and how the proposed recreation or open space area will enhance the adjacent publicly-owned land.*

The project will provide for outdoor recreation and an open space and serve as a trailhead with a direct connection into the adjacent Princeton Trail which ties directly into the existing and publicly owned South Dade Trail. The project will also be connected to existing county owned public parks in the area such as Plant and Princetonian parks via the Princeton Trail. (As shown on Exhibits K and I).

2. Will the project include new or enhanced land-based nature, bike, equestrian, or multi-use trail(s) that is at least ¼ mile in length? (5 points)
YES __X__ NO _____
*If **yes**, show the proposed trail on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K.*

The project will include a minimum ¼ mile multi-use trail that will span .29 miles around the outer perimeter of the lake. The trail would be used primarily for walking/joggers however, it could be used by bicyclists and rollerbladers. Since the project site is located directly adjacent to the Princeton Trail, the on-site multi-use trail will connect to the greater South Dade Greenways Network.

3. Will the project provide Outdoor Recreation facilities, such as a picnic pavilion, fishing pier, wildlife observation platform, playground, basketball court, volleyball court, etc.?

Check yes to only one of the following, if applicable:

a. The project includes two or three Outdoor Recreation facilities. (5 points)
YES ____ NO _____
*If **yes**, describe what facilities will be provided. Show the proposed facilities on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K.*

11

b. The project includes four or more Outdoor Recreation facilities. (10 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe what facilities will be provided. Show the proposed facilities on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K.*

As illustrated in Exhibit K, the project provides for the following facilities on site:

- playground
- fishing pier and wildlife observation deck with interpretative signage,
- canoe/kayak launch,
- picnic shelter with site furniture (benches, picnic tables, garbage cans, etc.)
- vita course fitness equipment

4. Will the project provide access facilities to an existing open water shoreline or beach, such as a fishing pier, observation platform, dock or dune walkover, and be managed for recreation uses? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe what shoreline access facility will be provided and discuss how it will be managed for recreation use. Show the proposed facility on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K.*

The project provides for access to the lake via a fishing pier/wildlife observation deck. Signage (both interpretative and informational) will be provided on the deck for users. The deck will be managed and maintained by the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department.

5. Will the project further Outdoor Recreation or open space in an Urban Area?

a. Is the Project Site located within an existing Urban Service Area? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe the existing Urban Service Area. Provide maps and aerial photographs that support the response.*

The project site is located within an existing urban service area known as the Princeton Community Urban Center District which was officially approved and adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners in 2005. As illustrated in Exhibit H, the project site is part of the Princeton Community Urban Center District's Master Plan as an area zoned for Industrial District.

b. Is the Project Site located within an Urban Service Area and also within ½ mile of a built-up commercial or industrial area? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe the land use within ½ mile of the site. Provide maps and aerial photographs that support the response.*
***Note:** To qualify for this criterion, **criterion 5.a should be answered yes**.*

The project site is located within the Princeton Community Urban Center District and is .25 miles from South Federal Highway (US 1), a major commercial corridor in Miami-Dade County. The Master Plan for the District zones the adjacent area for an Arts District as shown in Exhibit H.

(b) Connectivity

1. Is the Project Site accessible by an existing sidewalk or will be connected to an adjacent sidewalk? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes,** show the location of the existing or proposed sidewalks on Exhibits K and I. Discuss how the sidewalk will connect the Project Site to the surrounding neighborhood.*

The project site is part of the Princeton Community Urban Center District's Master Plan which includes an entire section on Street Types Plan (sidewalks are incorporated) to illustrate connectivity within the entire area. Exhibit Q is provided to illustrate the official plan with the project site identified. When the surrounding properties are redeveloped sidewalks and streets will completely surround the project site and connect it to the surrounding areas.

12

2. Is the Project Site adjacent to, or does it include, a Recreational Trail that connects to an existing local, regional or statewide land-based Recreational Trail System or the Preferred Routing for the Florida National Scenic Trail? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, identify the local, regional or statewide trail system and discuss how the project will enhance the system. Provide a map of the trail system and identify the location of the Project Site.*
***Note**: A Recreational Trail does not include canoe trails, sidewalks, or bike lanes on the road.*

The project site will serve as a trailhead for the adjacent Princeton Trail which will not only enhance but also connect directly into the existing South Dade Greenway Network Master Plan and Miami-Dade County's Greenway Network. The Princeton Trail ties directly into the existing South Dade Trail, proposed Tallahassee Connector, proposed Krome Trail and the proposed Everglades Trail. See Exhibit I and R for maps of the existing trail system.

3. Will the project enhance or connect a local, regional or statewide Ecological Corridor? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____ **(need to decide on which map you want to use to show this)**
*If **yes**, identify the local, regional or statewide network of Ecological Corridors and discuss how the project will enhance the network. Provide a map of the Ecological Corridor and identify the location of the Project Site.*

The proposed Princeton Lakeside Park borders the C-102 canal which serves as a local ecological corridor providing a path of migratory birds and other wildlife. The project site contains a lake which serves as a refuge for wildlife along the ecological corridor. With the acquisition of the site and subsequent restoration of native vegetation and wetlands, the site will further serve as an asset to the existing ecological corridor. Additionally, the project site is located along the greenbelt with connection into the South Dade Greenway Network and is adjacent and the county's Urban Development Boundary (UDB) – the line that separates the urbanized from the non-urbanized areas of the County. The acquisition of this site would further enhance and secure a greenbelt along the UDB and provide a buffer between the developed and rural areas of the County.

4. Will the project further a locally adopted Ecological Corridor or Recreational Trail System plan? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, provide a copy or a portion of the locally Ecological Corridor or Recreational Trail System plan, including a map of the Ecological Corridor or Recreational Trail System, and identify the location of the Project Site.*

The project site is located adjacent to the Princeton Trail which is part of the Miami-Dade County Greenways Network, a regional recreational trail system which connects to Monroe County (south) and Broward County (north). The proposed Princeton Lakeside Park will serve as a trailhead to the Princeton Trail and thus further enhance the existing recreational trail system by providing access and amenities for residents and visitors to the trail system. Exhibit R provides a map of the regional trail system and a local view of the countywide trail system with the location of the project site.

5. Will the project enhance a State Designated Paddling Trail by providing facilities, including a paddling trail sign, canoe/kayak launch, and restrooms? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, include a commitment to provide paddling trail sign, canoe/kayak launch, and restrooms on the Project Site. Provide a map of the State Designated Paddling Trail and identify the location of the Project Site. Provide documentation that the trail has been designated by the Office of Greenways and Trails.*

(c) Educational Opportunities

1. Will the Project Site include an interpretive kiosk or interpretive signs intended to educate visitors about the natural environment or unique history of the area? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe the interpretive educational signs to be provided.*

The project site will serve as a trailhead and include signage/information kiosk with trail information, maps and safety tips. The site will also include interpretative signage on the fishing and wildlife observation deck that will showcase the wildlife species (birds, reptiles, amphibians, etc.) found to inhabit the park and also the natural history of the area.

13

2. Will the Applicant provide at least 12 environmental or historical education classes or programs per year at the Project Site conducted by trained educator(s) or resource professional(s)? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, identify who will be conducting the classes or programs; describe the classes or programs to be provided, and the frequency of the planned programs.*

Trained staff and nature experts employed with the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department will offer and provide at least 12 environmental education classes/programs annually at the Project Site during the school-year (September-June). The classes will focus on providing "eco-adventures" to elementary aged youth. There are several public and private elementary schools near the proposed site and a Camp Redlands site that would benefit from youth-oriented eco-adventure offerings. It is estimated that a minimum of 300 youth would benefit from the classes.

3. Will the Project Site include a staffed nature center, museum building, or Neighborhood Recreation Center to provide year round educational classes or programming? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, describe the proposed facility, the size of the proposed facility, and who will provide the programming.*
Note: *The facility should be a minimum of 1,000 square feet and no larger than 15,000 square feet.*

(d) Natural and Biological Resources

1. Does the land cover on the Project Site consist of predominantly Natural Communities that have not been impacted by human disturbance or alteration? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, describe the various Natural Communities on the Project Site, including the quality of the communities, and the approximate acreage of each community. Describe the extent and acreage of the disturbances or alterations on the Project Site.*
Note: *Predominantly natural equates to approximately 70 percent coverage.*

2. Does the Project Site contain a Locally Significant Natural Area as identified by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map and letter from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory that the Project Site contains a Locally Significant Natural Area.*

3. Does the Project Site contain Habitat recognized as typically suitable for one or more Listed Animal Species? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe the Habitat on the Project Site and identify any listed species that may use the site as Habitat. Discuss the present condition of the Habitat, the approximate size of the Habitat in acres and how it will be protected and managed.*

The open lake and surrounding green space on the project site (7.91 acres) create a magnet for migratory birds to use the site as a stopover. Perches would be erected to encourage the presence of raptors that are known to inhabit the area, such as osprey, red-shouldered hawks, and the southeastern American kestrel (listed as Threatened by the State of Florida). The lake would also be enhanced with native vegetation to provide a habitat for waterfowl such as ducks and wadding birds. An American alligator, listed as a Species of Special Concern by the State, has been observed in the lake. The natural habitat and species inhabiting the project site would be protected and managed by the trained and expert staff of the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department.

4. Does the Project Site contain critical habitat typically suitable for one or more Listed Animal Species and is the site located in a Strategic Habitat Conservation Area, as identified by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map and letter from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission that the Project Site contains a Strategic Habitat Conservation Area.*

14

(e) Vegetative Enhancement

1. Will invasive exotic vegetation be removed from the Project Site? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe the type and extent of the invasive exotic vegetation on the Project Site. Describe what activities are proposed for removal and to keep the site free of invasive exotic vegetation.*

All exotic invasive species will be removed from the site. The exotic invasive species occurs mostly around the edge of the lake at the project site and include species such as Australian pine, Brazilian pepper, and napiergrass. The invasive species found on the project site will be controlled using Current Control Technologies. Follow-up treatment of exotic invasive vegetation will also occur periodically to prevent infestation. Trained, expert staff with the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department will handle the removal and keep the project site free of the invasive exotic vegetation.

2. Will a significant portion of the upland area on the Project Site be planted with native vegetation? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, discuss the approximate number and types of native plants to be planted. Show the approximate area that will be planted on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K. **(need more details – what area on plan)***

Landscaping will take place on portions throughout the project site and will focus on the use of appropriate native species such as slash pine, cabbage palm, saw palmetto, locustberry (Threatened), marlberry, firebrush, Florida gammagrass (Threatened), satinleaf (Threatened), and strangler fig. (need to know quantity that will be planted?)

3. Will a significant portion of the wetland area on the Project Site be planted with native vegetation? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, discuss the approximate number and types of native wetland vegetation to be planted. Show the approximate area that will be planted with native wetland vegetation on the conceptual site plan, Exhibit K.*

All of the wetland area (surrounding the lake) on the project site will be planted with native vegetation. Following the removal of exotic invasive species from around the edge of the lake, the edge and slope of the lake will be replanted with (how many quantities?) wetland and other appropriate species such as sawgrass, muhly grass, leather fern, dahoon holly, cabbage palm, and cocoplum.

(f) Water Quality

1. Will the quality of surface waters or current flooding problems occurring on adjacent land or land in close proximity to the Project Site be improved by the installation of stormwater facilities on the Project Site that provide wildlife Habitat and/or open space in a park-like setting? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, discuss the existing water quality or flooding problems. Describe the proposed stormwater facilities and how they will be designed to provide wildlife Habitat and/or open space in a park-like setting. Show the proposed facilities on Exhibit K.*

The project site consists of a lake that connects into the C-102 canal. Additionally, the proposed project site is a few hundred yards from a flood control structure (S-165) owned and operated by the South Florida Water Management District. There are no threats to water quality and flooding concerns are extremely minimal due to the combined presence of the open water source (lake) and the canal connection. The open water source will continue to remain undisturbed and the existing wildlife that inhabits the water will continue to be able to do so.

2. Will acquiring the Project Site protect an adjacent Outstanding Florida Water, as designated by the Department of Environmental Protection? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map or other documentation showing that the boundary of the Project Site is located adjacent to an Outstanding Florida Water.*

15

3. Will acquiring the Project Site protect adjacent Class I Waters, as identified by the Department of Environmental Protection, or is the Project Site in a locally designated wellfield protection zone? (5 points)
YES ____ NO __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map or other documentation showing that the boundary of the Project Site is located adjacent to a Class I Water or in a wellfield protection zone.*

(g) Historic Resources

1. Does the Project Site contain, or is the Project Site within ¼ mile of, a site listed in the Florida Master Site File maintained by the Division of Historical Resources? (5 points)
YES _X__ NO ____
*If **yes**, identify the resource, show its location in relationship to the Project Site, and provide the Master Site File number.*

The Florida Master Site File lists eight standing structure sites (residential and commercial) and one cemetery site and one resource group at the project site. Exhibit S illustrates what is currently on the Florida Master Site File and includes the Master Site File numbers for each of the structures.

2. Will acquiring the Project Site protect a resource that is listed in the Florida Master Site File and also recognized by a local historic board or the Division of Historical Resources as being historically significant at the local, regional or state level? (5 points)
YES ____ NO __X__
*If **yes**, identify the resource, its location on the Project Site and document its historical significance. Identify which governmental agency, board or expert in the field identified the resource as being significant.*

3. Will acquiring the Project Site protect a resource that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service? (5 points)
YES ____ NO __X__
*If **yes**, identify the resource, its location on the Project Site, and document the National Register listing.*

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(3) COMMUNITY PLANNING SECTION

(a) Comprehensive Plan Implementation

For each of the following criteria that are furthered by the Local Comprehensive Plan, **cite no more than five (5) relevant objectives or policies in each response**.

If the response to a criterion is **no**, move to the next question. If the response to a criterion is **yes**, cite the objective or policy number and paraphrase the plan directive, provide a brief discussion of how acquiring the site will further the cited objective or policy, and include a copy of the objective or policy in Exhibit A. If a criterion addresses specific resources or facilities, they must be present on the Project Site in order for points to be awarded.

If the Project Site is located entirely in one Local Government jurisdiction, the Local Comprehensive Plan of the jurisdiction within which the Project Site is located shall be evaluated for scoring purposes. If the Project Site is located in two or more jurisdictions, the Local Comprehensive Plan of either jurisdiction shall be compared for compatibility and evaluated for scoring purposes. If either jurisdiction's Local Comprehensive Plan is furthered then points will be awarded.

1. Will the project provide acreage or outdoor recreational facilities necessary to maintain or improve adopted levels of service standards established in the comprehensive plan for recreation or open space? (5 points)
YES __X__ NO _____
Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project will provide acreage necessary to meet Level of Service (LOS) standards established by the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan as follows:

ROS-1A (excerpt). Countywide park and recreation open spaces shall be provided to meet the diverse needs of all Miami-Dade residents and tourists.

ROS-1B (excerpt). Local recreation open spaces serve the close-to-home recreation and open space needs of unincorporated residential areas.

ROS-2Ai (excerpt). Miami-Dade County's minimum Level of Service (LOS) standard for the provision of recreation open space shall be the following: i.) 2.75 acres of local recreation open space per 1,000 permanent residents in unincorporated areas;

ROS-2Aii (excerpt). A County-provided, or an annexed or incorporated, local recreation open space of 5 acres or larger must exist within a 3 mile distance from the residential development.

ROS-2C (excerpt). In order to supply local parks to meet public demands, the County will maintain at 70% its 2003 proportionate share of the total local recreation open space required and strive to increase pursuant to Policy ROS-2A.i. to 80% of the LOS standard by 2010.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:

The project site will create both a neighborhood park for the Princeton Community Urban Center District, an unincorporated part of Miami-Dade County, and a trailhead for the South Dade Greenways Network. The project site will meet the needs of residents (anticipated to increase to 68,000) and visitors to the area. The project site is adjacent (less than 3 miles) to areas zoned for residential development. The project site will add 7.91 acres to Miami-Dade Park and Recreation's inventory and include an the added benefit of connectivity to natural blueway and greenway corridors.

2. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that ensure Acquisition of natural areas or open space through public Acquisition? (5 points)

YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:

The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that ensure acquisition of natural areas or open space through public acquisition as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan as follows:

ROS-5A (excerpt). The County shall prioritize capital improvement expenditures in accordance with the following criteria: 3) develop new recreation open spaces and facilities within undeveloped or incomplete parks.

ROS-5Bii (excerpt). In order to achieve greater economy and efficiency of operations, and to deliver the range of recreation services desired by the public, 30 acres is the preferred minimum size park desired by the County to purchase new local parks. However, five acres is the minimum size needed to establish new County-provided local parks within unincorporated areas.

ROS-5Biii (excerpt). In areas planned for development inside the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) where heavy parcelization has occurred and where there is limited potential for the dedication of usable land, the County shall place a high priority on early site acquisition to reserve adequate recreation open space to address future needs.

ROS-5Bvii (excerpt). The Park and Recreation Department shall continue to acquire countywide park and recreation open space having high resource values and capable of providing compatible outdoor recreation. Acquisition priorities for such areas shall be as follows: 1) shoreline over non-shoreline; 2) compatible outdoor recreation over preservation-only; 3) multi-purpose use over single-purpose use; and 5) sites that are contiguous or linked to an existing recreation open space over non-contiguous or non-linked sites;

ROS-5F (excerpt). Continue to implement and consider expansion of segments of the County Greenway and Blueway Network that provide recreation and environmental benefits while improving connectivity to parks, natural areas, and other recreational facilities.

17

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
The acquisition of the land (7.91 acres) for the project site secures open green space to be used for multi-use recreational purposes. The project site also secures a greenbelt along the UDB, helping to further provide a buffer between the developed and rural areas of Miami-Dade County. The project site contains an open shoreline (lake), provides multi-purpose uses for compatible outdoor recreation, and is linked to the Princeton Trail which connects to the South Dade Trail and the greater South Dade Greenway Network.

3. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives to provide new or enhanced public access to existing water bodies or saltwater beaches? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that ensure to provide new or enhanced public access to existing water bodies as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan and the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage (CON) Element as follows:

> **ROS-3B (excerpt).** The County shall improve and promote non-motorized access to existing park and recreation open spaces by implementing the North and South Miami-Dade Greenway and Blueway Network, as well as improved sidewalks and trails, to improve connectivity between parks and residences, schools, activity centers, and transportation nodes.
>
> **CON-4A (excerpt).**The acquifer-recharge values of wetland areas shall be maintained and, where feasible, enhanced or restored. There shall be no further positive drainage of wetlands to accommodate urban development or agricultural uses.
>
> **CON-9F (excerpt).** The County's planning for the future development of open space and wetland mitigation areas shall include the protection, conservation and/or restoration of wildlife habitats.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
The project site provides for the preservation of an open water source (lake) that connects directly into the C-102 canal (blueway). Proposed enhancements to the project site involving public access to the lake include the installation of a fishing and wildlife deck and a canoe/kayak launch. The land acquisition will help to preserve the water resource and allow for wetland restoration around the lake's edge to enhance the attraction for migratory birds and wildlife and sustain its natural habitat.

4. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that provide for creating new or enhanced Greenways, Ecological Corridors or Recreational Trail Systems? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that provide for creating new or enhanced Greenways, Ecological Corridors or Recreational Trail Systems as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan, the Land Use (LU) Element, and the Natural Areas Management Plan's All Natural Areas (ALL) section as follows:

> **ROS-5F (excerpt).** Continue to implement and consider expansion of segments of the County Greenway and Blueway Network that provide recreation and environmental benefits while improving connectivity to parks, natural areas, and other recreational facilities.
>
> **LU-1H (excerpt).** The County should identify sites having good potential to serve as greenbelts, and should recommend retention and enhancement strategies, where warranted. Such greenbelts should be suggested on the basis of their ability to provide aesthetically pleasing urban spaces, recreational opportunities, or wildlife benefits. Considered sites should include canal, road or powerline rights-of-way, or portions thereof, particularly where they could link other parklands, wildlife habitats, or other open spaces.
>
> **ALL.1.5 (excerpt).** Increase size, connectivity, and diversity of natural areas. Promote site-appropriate native landscaping in developed areas around a site to increase habitat area.

18

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
Acquisition of the project site helps to expand the County Greenway and Blueway Network by providing connectivity to both. The project site has a lake that connects directly into the C-102 canal (blueway) and is adjacent to the Princeton Trail which provides direct connectivity to the South Dade Trail and the greater South Dade Greenway Network. The project site will provide a trailhead creating recreational and environmental benefits while improving the connectivity to the blueway and greenway resources. The lake is ideal for wetland restoration and the site's natural habitat has remained undisturbed for several years. A team of native species experts from Miami-Dade's Park and Recreation Department will handle the removal of all exotic invasive vegetation and replace with appropriate native landscaping vegetation appropriate for the site.

5. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that ensure the preservation of Natural Communities or Listed Animal Species Habitat? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that ensure the preservation of Natural Communities or Listed Animal Species Habitat as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage (CON) Element as follows:

> **CON-9A (excerpt).** All activities that adversely affect habitat that is critical to federal or State designated, endangered or threatened species shall be prohibited unless such activity(ies) are a public necessity and there are no possible alternative sites where the activity(ies) can occur.
>
> **CON-9B (excerpt).** All nesting, roosting and feeding habitats used by federal or State designated endangered or threatened species, shall be protected and buffered from surrounding development or activities, where necessary.
>
> **CON-9E (excerpt).** Conservation of upland wildlife habitats shall be taken into consideration during development evaluation and permitting processes.
>
> **CON-9F (excerpt).** The County's planning for the future development of open space and wetland mitigation areas shall include the protection, conservation and/or restoration of wildlife habitats.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
Acquisition of the land helps to provide for the preservation of a natural habitat that contains an open water source and surrounding green space. The Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department will become the project site manager and have the ability to ensure that the natural resources and wildlife on the site are sustained and protected. The site's natural habitat has remained undisturbed for several years. The scattered pineland and hammock preserves in the vicinity of the site along with the opportunity to preserve the lake and native vegetation provides for an excellent opportunity to sustain a natural habitat for reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, as well as an attractive stopover point for migratory bird species. An American alligator, listed as a Species of Special Concern by the State, has been sighted at the lake.

6. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that provide for coordination between the Local Government and other federal, state and local agencies or Nonprofit Environmental Organizations in managing natural areas or open space or furthering the completion of the Florida National Scenic Trail? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that provide for coordination between the Local Government and other federal, state and local agencies in managing natural areas or open space as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan and the Natural Areas Management Plan's All Natural Areas (ALL) section as follows:

> **ROS-4Cii (excerpt).** The Park and Recreation Department shall continue to work with community based organizations, non-profit youth service organizations, foundations, facility support societies and other special interest groups to expand opportunities for private, non-profit investment in park improvements and recreational programming.

19

ROS-4F (excerpt). The Park and Recreation Department will collaborate with County agencies to oversee funding programs and accounts related to landscaping maintenance, resource management, and environmental mitigation and restoration, and pursuing investigations of regulatory fines for environmental infractions.

ROS-5Bvi (excerpt). The Park and Recreation Department shall expand the use of conservation partnerships with land acquisition organizations who specialize in the purchase of urban open space for both countywide and local recreation open spaces.

ALL.1.4 (excerpt): Protect habitats from point and non-point pollution through coordination with MDC Public Works, Mosquito Control District to reduce or eliminate spraying on and adjacent to natural areas.

ALL.4.4 (excerpt): Eliminate dumping and maintain easements free of invasive plants though coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Power and Light, MDC Public Works, and South Florida Water Management District.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
These directives call for MDPR to utilize conservation partnerships in the acquisition of project sites and collaborate with other depts., agencies and organizations as necessary for conducting and overseeing resource management activities on natural areas. To ensure the acquisition, Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department (MDPR) is utilizing the assistance and support of the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to facilitate and expedite the acquisition and assist in providing due diligence to the site's significant local natural area. Additionally, MDPR's Natural Areas Management Section will lead management of restoration efforts in collaboration with other County and federal agencies.

7. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that provide for restoring or enhancing degraded natural areas such as restoration of Natural Communities, restoration of natural hydrology or removal of non-native vegetation? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that provide for restoring or enhancing degraded natural areas such as restoration of Natural Communities, restoration of natural hydrology or removal of non-native vegetation as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Recreational & Open Space (ROS) Element of the Plan and the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage (CON) Element as follows:

ROS-6D (excerpt). The use of native plant materials for park landscaping shall be increased where appropriate and shall be used in developing and maintaining environmentally sensitive parklands.

CON-7C (excerpt). Miami-Dade County shall continue to promote the restoration and maintenance of the natural, surface water flow regimes into, and through wetland systems such as the Shark River Slough, Everglades National Park and the saline wetlands of southeastern Miami-Dade County.

CON-7F (excerpt). Wetland mitigation areas shall be preferentially located adjacent to canals or in biologically degraded wetlands that are adjacent to, or that could serve as corridors between, Resources of Regional Significance.

CON-8I (excerpt). Exotic pest plants shall not be sold, propagated, or planted within Miami-Dade County (refer to Exhibit A for list of exotics plants).

CON-8J (excerpt). Efforts should be made to propagate and reestablish where practical, endangered, threatened, and potentially endangered native plants in Miami-Dade County. Through its land acquisition and regulatory processes, Miami-Dad County shall continue to protect federally and State-listed plant species to the maximum extent possible.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies: The project site preserves an open water resource and the entire circumference of the lake is ideal for wetland restoration. Exotic invasive species will be removed from the site, especially around the edge of the lake. The edge and slope of the lake will be replanted with wetland and other appropriate species such as sawgrass, muhly grass, leather fern, dahoon holly, cabbage palm, and cocoplum, to attract various reptiles and amphibians. Carefully chosen native species will be planted to enhance native vegetation on portions throughout the site to attract various forms of wildlife. Trees, shrubs, and grasses will provide shelter, foraging, perching, and nesting opportunities for many species of birds. All exotic invasive species will be removed from the site and controlled using Current Control Technologies. Follow-up treatment of exotic invasive vegetation will also occur periodically to prevent infestation. Trained, expert staff with the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department who are familiar with the federal and State protected plant species lists will handle the removal and keep the project site free of the invasive exotic vegetation.

8. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that ensure the protection or enhancement of surface water quality by addressing non-point pollution through enhanced stormwater treatment? (5 points)
YES __X__ NO _____

Numeric citation and summary of objectives or policies:
The project furthers comprehensive plan directives that ensure the protection or enhancement of surface water quality by addressing non-point pollution through enhanced stormwater treatment as established in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The project furthers various policies set forth from the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage (CON) Element as follows:

> **CON-2.** Protect ground and surface water resources from degradation, provide for effective surveillance for pollution and clean up polluted areas to meet all applicable federal, state and County ground and surface water quality standards.
>
> **CON-2K (excerpt).** Miami-Dade County shall use the data generated in its ambient ground and surface water monitoring programs to determine normal background levels for the twelve National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) priority pollutants and any other pollutants of interest.
>
> **CON-2H (excerpt).** Miami-Dade County shall evaluate the amount and methods of application for fertilizers and pesticides as necessary to promote efficient plant growth and minimize leaching to the ground water.
>
> **CON-4A (excerpt).** The aquifer-recharge values of wetland areas shall be maintained and, where feasible, enhanced or restored. There shall be no further positive drainage of wetlands to accommodate urban development or agricultural uses.
>
> **CON-7G (excerpt).** Miami-Dade County shall continue to work with the appropriate federal, State, regional and local agencies to develop wetland basin management plans for all the planned future wetlands areas in Miami-Dade County. These plans shall identify biological and wildlife habitat values, recharge and runoff detention values, and key management issues, including fill encroachment criteria.

Summary of how the project furthers the objectives or policies:
The project site contains an open water source that has a direct connection into the C-102 canal. Acquisition of the land allows for the preservation of the lake and its wetland restoration (around lake's edge). Following the removal of exotic invasive species from around the edge of the lake, the edge and slope of the lake will be replanted with wetland and other appropriate species such as sawgrass, muhly grass, leather fern, dahoon holly, cabbage palm, and cocoplum. To prevent any point or non-point pollution from affecting the habitat, restoration and management practices will minimize use of herbicides containing triclopyr in the proximity of native Ficus and prohibit the use of herbicides altogether within the vicinity of sinkholes/solution hole.

9. Will the project further comprehensive plan directives that ensure the preservation of historical, cultural or archaeological features? (5 points)
***Note**: The site must contain a feature or have a high probability that a feature is present on the site.*
YES ____ NO __X__

21

10. Is the Project Site located in an area that has been identified for redevelopment in the comprehensive plan and has been locally designated as an urban infill, urban redevelopment or downtown revitalization area as defined in Section 163.3164, F.S.? (5 points)
YES __ _ **NO** _X__

(b) Hazard Mitigation

1. Flood Hazard Area: Is all or a portion of the Project Site located in a coastal high hazard area or a 100-year floodplain? (5 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, provide a map identifying the 100-year flood plain or coastal high hazard area and location of the Project Site on Exhibit J.*

Project Site is located on 100-year flood plain map provided in Exhibit J.

2. Designated Brownfield Area: Will the project provide recreational opportunities or open space within a state designated brownfield area? (5 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
If the Project Site has known contaminants, discuss how the site contamination will be remediated to allow for the provision of open space or Outdoor Recreation activities.

(c) Priority Investment Areas

Review each of the following statements and check all that apply to the project. Responses without supporting documentation will not be evaluated and points will not be awarded.
Will the Project Site provide new or enhanced Outdoor Recreation or open space within the following areas?

1. Front Porch Community: Is the Project Site located within a designated Front Porch Community? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X_
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area and the location of the Project Site.*

2. Florida Main Street Community: Is the Project Site located within an active Florida Main Street Community? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area and the location of the Project Site.*

3. Waterfront Florida Community: Is the Project Site located within a current or previously designated Waterfront Florida Community? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X_
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area and the location of the Project Site.*

4. Low-income Community: Is the Project Site located within a designated Low-income Community? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** _X_
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area and the location of the Project Site.*

5. Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern: Is the Project Site located within a designated Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area.*

6. Urban Redevelopment: Is the Project Site located within a locally designated Community Redevelopment Area, as defined in Section 163.340? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area and the location of the Project Site.*

7. Area of Critical State Concern: Is the project site located within a current or previously designated Area of Critical State Concern, pursuant to Section 380.05, F.S.? (10 points)
YES ____ **NO** __X__
*If **yes**, provide a map that identifies the boundary of the designated area.*

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(4) PROJECT EXCELLENCE SECTION

Does the proposed project exemplify project excellence based on issues not adequately addressed by the evaluation criteria, such as whether the proposed project exhibits strong community-based support, possesses exemplary characteristics, highlights regional coordination in the protection of natural resources, assists an otherwise disadvantaged community, or voluntarily helps resolve land use conflicts? (Up to 10 points)
YES __X__ **NO** _____
*If **yes**, describe how the project provides for other community needs in a manner that was not adequately evaluated by the criteria established elsewhere in this Application. Include documentation, if needed.*

There is a very advantageous and prime opportunity to develop Princeton Lakeside Park, a neighborhood park and trailhead for the South Dade Greenways network, at this time. The property is ideally located and the owners have committed to a willing to allow the County to extend a purchase offer.

Aside from its advantageous connectivity to both a blueway and greenway corridor, the project site borders two "low-income" communities. (Exhibit T) The low-income communities (as recognized by HUD) are the Goulds and Leisure City/Naranja communities of Miami-Dade County. Princeton Lakeside Park would provide recreational benefits to all the residents.

The proposed project has already exhibited strong community-based support as evidenced by the Princeton Community Urban Center District's designation for the site to be used as a lake side park.

Additionally, to ensure the acquisition, Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department is utilizing the assistance and support of the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to facilitate and expedite the acquisition and assist in providing due diligence to the site's significant local natural area.

23

REQUIRED EXHIBITS

Each of the following exhibits is required to be submitted with the grant Application. Provide a label and tab for each exhibit and please ensure that all exhibits are legible and of an appropriate scale. If two or more exhibits are consolidated, make sure this is reflected on the exhibit label. If a specific exhibit is not applicable, include an exhibit page with a statement that it is "Not Applicable." Locate the exhibits behind the project evaluation criteria section of the Application.

Exhibits

A. A copy of each Local Comprehensive Plan objective and policy cited in the grant Application that applies to the Project Site. Please highlight or underline the applicable plan directive being referenced.

B. A copy of all proposed Local Comprehensive Plan amendments cited in the grant Application that apply to the Project Site.

C. A United States Geological Survey 7½-minute quadrangle map with the Project Site location clearly delineated.

D. A county property appraiser's tax map delineating the Project Site boundary, access points, names of property owners, parcel tax identification numbers, road names and ownership boundaries using an appropriate scale.

E. An aerial photograph at 1 inch = 2,000 feet or greater detail, with the Project Site boundary clearly delineated.

F. A map that depicts Natural Communities found on the Project Site, utilizing the classification system identified in the Florida Natural Areas Inventory publication "Guide to the Natural Communities of Florida" or other appropriate classification system. Clearly delineate the Project Site boundary and include the approximate acreage of each Natural Community on the Project Site.

G. A map that identifies any existing physical improvements, alterations or disturbances occurring on the Project Site, such as cleared areas, buildings, roads, fences, docks, power lines, billboards, borrow pits, etc. Clearly delineate the Project Site boundary and include the approximate acreage of improvements or disturbed areas.

Identify any existing or proposed utility, road, or other easements or rights-of-way on the Project Site.

H. A Future Land Use Map covering the Project Site and surrounding area that shows the location of the Project Site.

I. A map that identifies lands within a three-mile radius of the Project Site that are used for natural resource conservation and Outdoor Recreation, such as parks, preserves, wildlife management areas, Greenways, Recreational Trail Systems, etc. Clearly delineate the location of the Project Site on the map.

J. A map depicting the 100-year floodplain, the coastal high-hazard area or a wellfield protection zone with the Project Site boundary clearly delineated.

K. A conceptual site plan for the project that clearly delineates the Project Site boundary and shows the approximate location of all proposed facilities and improvements on the Project Site.

24

L. One set of labeled photographs of the Project Site, **to be included in the original Application**, that documents on-site features such as existing structures, disturbed areas, Natural Communities, and historical or archaeological features. Include a legend that identifies the site location and subject matter of each photograph.

M. If the Applicant is a Nonprofit Environmental Organization, evidence of status of the organization, including documentation from the Internal Revenue Service that the organization is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization, a copy of the Bylaws, and a copy of the Articles of Incorporation.

N. If the Applicant is a Nonprofit Environmental Organization which anticipates being designated as the management entity, the Nonprofit Environmental Organization shall provide documentation that they have funds on hand, or letters of commitment to provide the funds prior to closing on the Project Site, in an amount equal to ten percent of the Project Cost to be set aside as a management endowment fund for the Project Site.

The Nonprofit Environmental Organization shall provide a guaranty or pledge by a Local Government, the Water Management District, the Florida Division of Forestry, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to act as a backup manager to take over the responsibility for management of the Project Site in the event the Nonprofit Environmental Organization is unable to.

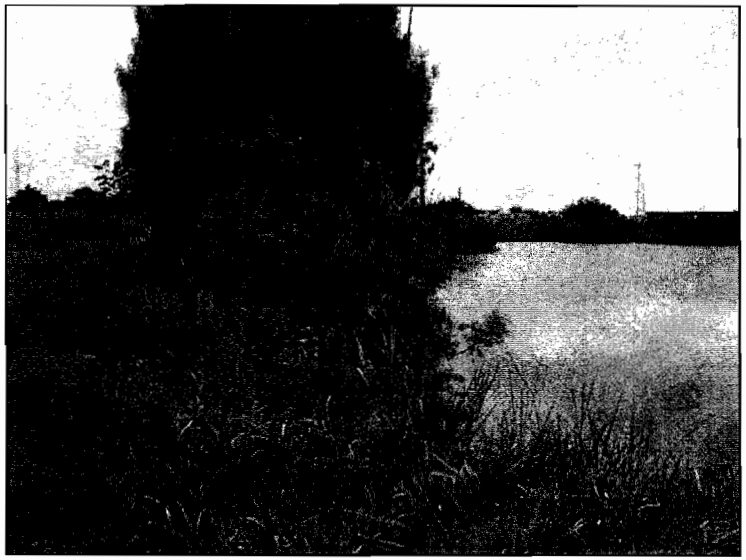
O. Letter from the owner(s) of each parcel(s), as identified in the Application, indicating their willingness to consider an offer.

P. If a Project Site is Pre-acquired, the Applicant shall provide copies of a signed closing statement for each Pre- acquired parcel. If a closing statement is not available at the time of the application submittal, then a copy of the contract for each of the Pre-acquired parcels shall be provided and a copy of the closing statements shall be provided within 14 days after the application deadline.

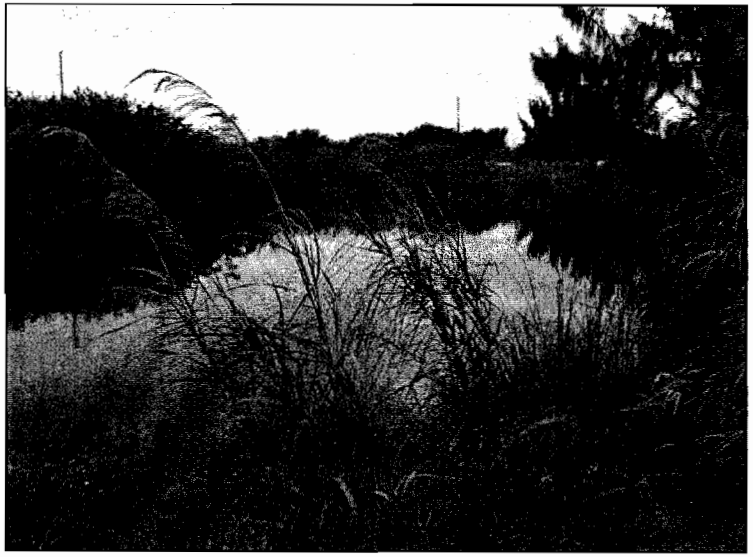
Also, provide a statement that *condemnation* or *threat of condemnation* was not used to acquire the parcel(s).

25

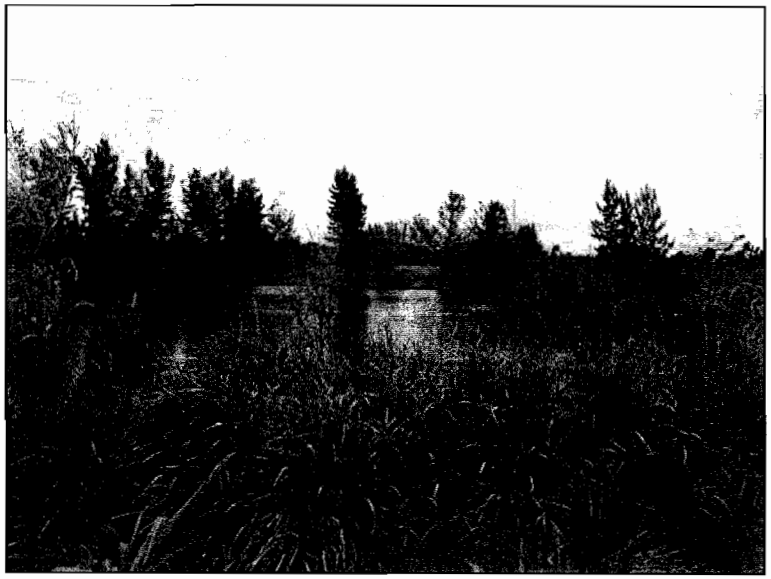
Princeton Lakeside Park Acquisition Project



East Section



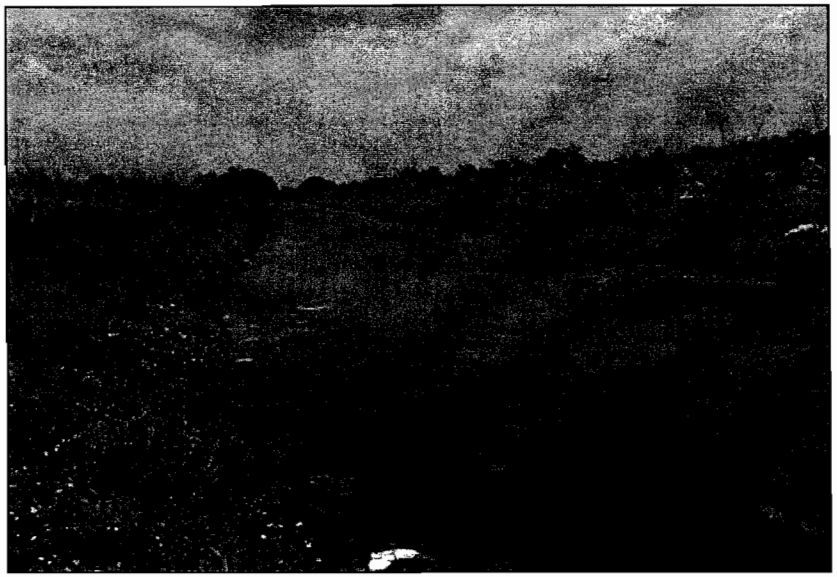
West Section



Overview of Lake

26

Princeton Lakeside Park Acquisition Project



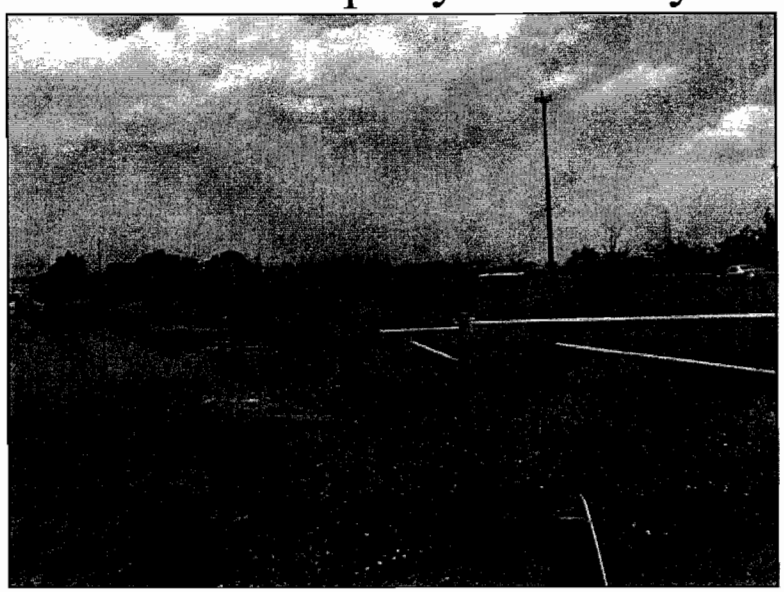
C-102 Canal (Connecting to Blueway)

Lake/Wetland Edge

Princeton Lakeside Park Acquisition Project

Northern Property Boundary

Site Access

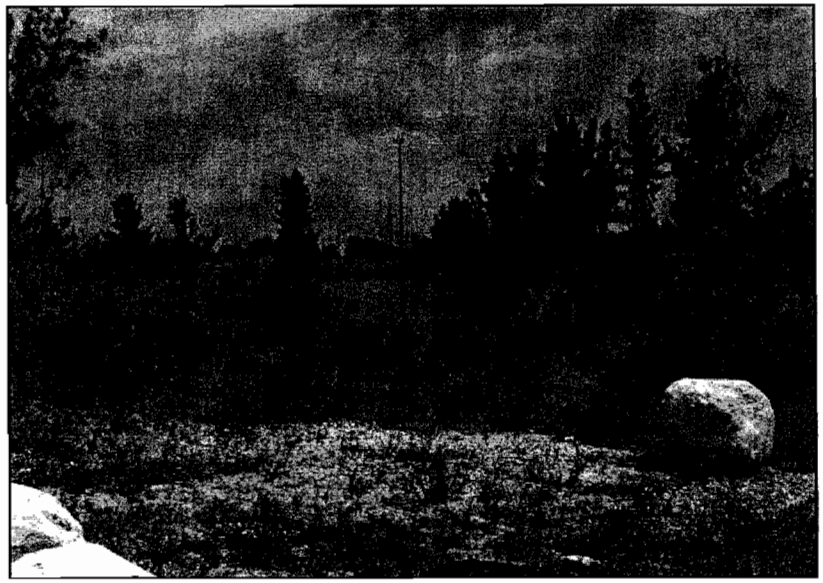


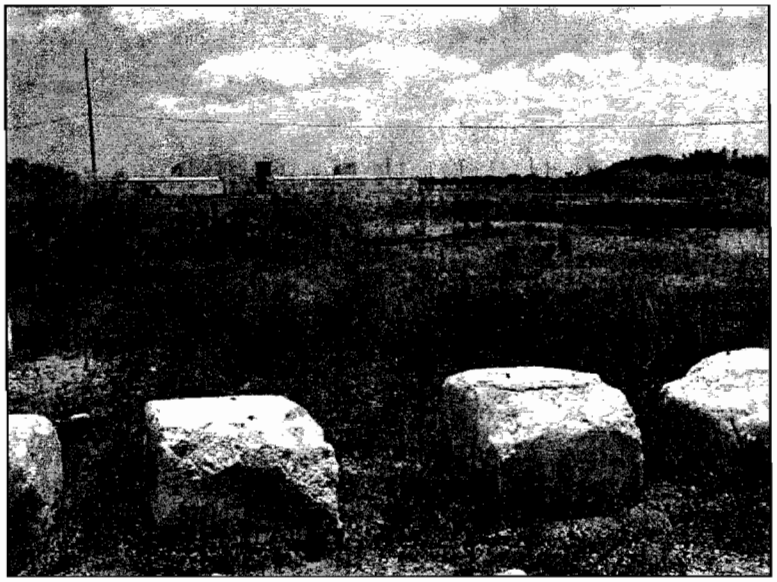
Canal and Park Property

View from Princeton Trail

28

Princeton Lakeside Park Acquisition Project



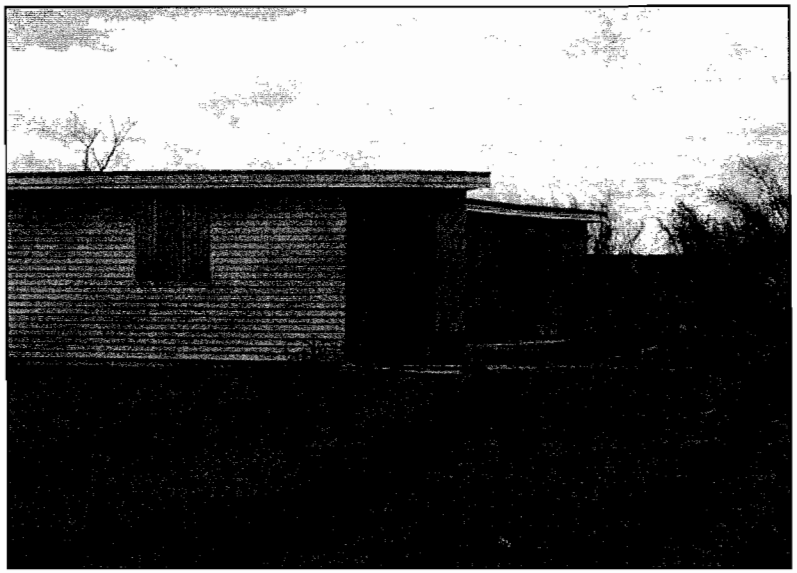


Views of Property

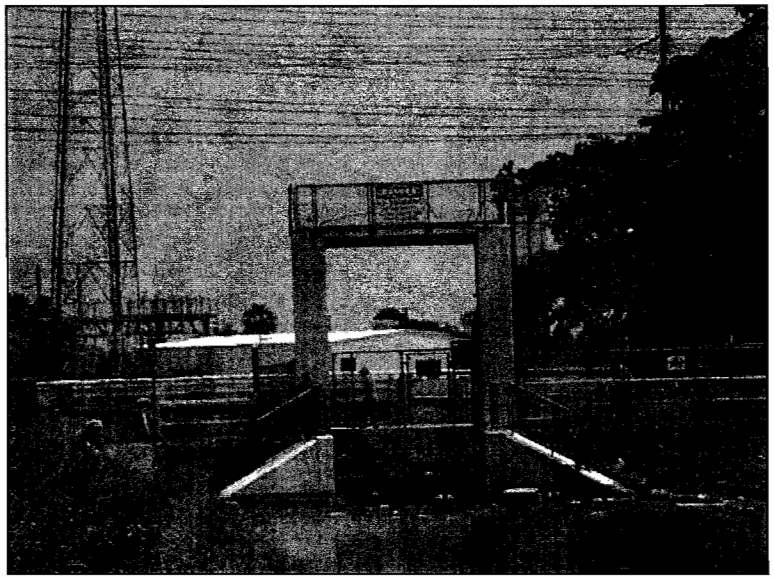
Wildlife

View Across Canal

Princeton Lakeside Park Acquisition Project

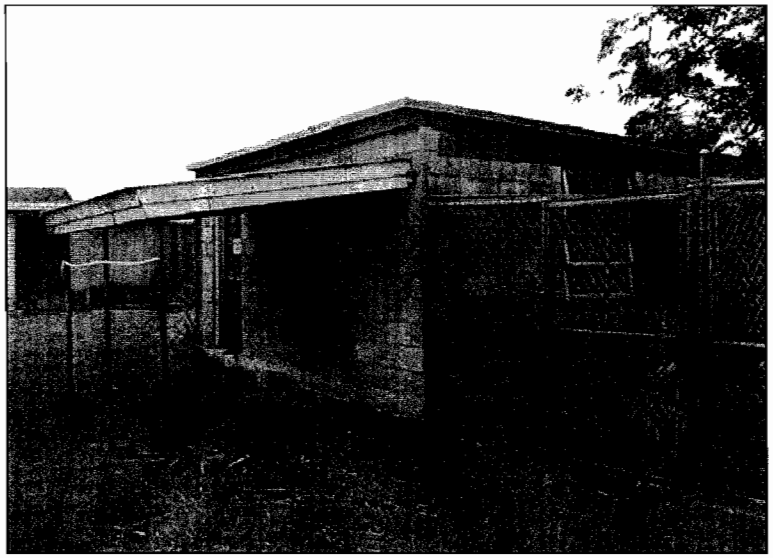


Main House



Adjacent SFWMP Stormwater/Flood Structure

Vacant Structures on Property



Vacant Outbuilding

30