

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Locations for Water Conservation Garden

**DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Services **DIVISION:** Water and Wastewater

**AUTHORIZED BY:** *Robert G. Adolphe* **CONTACT:** Liz Block **EXT.** 2121  
Robert G. Adolphe, P.E., Director Water Conservation Coordinator

**Agenda Date** 4/13/04 **Regular**  **Consent**  **Work Session**  **Briefing**   
**Public Hearing – 1:30**  **Public Hearing – 7:00**

**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

BCC to determine location of Water Conservation Garden from listed alternatives.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Northwest Service Area Consumptive Use Permit requires that the County develop a "water efficient landscape demonstration project" using a minimum budget of \$12,000. At the January 27, 2004 BCC meeting, a garden design to be located in front of the County Services Building was submitted to the Board. The Board directed staff to look at alternative locations, to address maintenance costs, and to report back to the Board. The purpose of the Water Conservation Garden project, in addition to fulfilling the CUP requirements, is to provide an educational experience for homeowners, landscape designers, and others on alternative water conserving landscaping design and plants.

Maintenance of the garden will be conducted by the landscape contractor for the first year as part of the contract. It is proposed that an annual maintenance contract for a maximum of \$2,000/year be included in the Water and Sewer budget for future fiscal years.

Staff have provided and ranked several sites for consideration by the Board (Attachment A). Ranking criteria included:

Reviewed by:
Co Atty: <u>na</u>
DFS: <u>na</u>
Other: _____
DCM: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
CM: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
File No. <u>RESW01</u>

Critical location criteria are:

- The County owns the land
- The size and design of the garden could be based on a budget of \$12,000
- Hardscape would be minimal in order to minimize costs

Criteria were rated on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being excellent, rating criteria are:

- The location is used by large numbers of people of diverse ages and backgrounds
- The site use focus is educational
- Traffic flow is on foot
- The primary site use is associated with activities where people would have time to stop at the displays
- The garden location is surrounding or adjacent to foot traffic flow for maximum exposure
- Irrigation water is available or can easily be extended to the site

Staff recommends selection of the Environmental Studies Center at Spring Hammock Preserve for the location of the garden.

## ATTACHMENT A

Site	Criteria	Rating	Comments
Environmental Studies Center – Spring Hammock Preserve	Lots of People	4	Thousands per year
	Diversity of People	3	Many are students, not homeowners
	Educational Site Use	5	Specific purpose of site
	Foot Traffic	5	All will be walking
	Leisure Activities	5	People move slowly at display areas
	Garden in Traffic Flow	5	Between parking lot and main facility
	Irrigation Available	5	To be included in design
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>32</b>	
Greenwood Lakes Park	Lots of People	4	About 315,000 people per year
	Diversity of People	4	All associated with outdoor activities
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	5	All would be on foot
	Leisure Activities	5	People are there to have fun
	Garden in Traffic Flow	3	Many ways through the park
	Irrigation Available	5	Yes
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>27</b>	
Softball Complex	Lots of People	3	Last FY – 200,822 people
	Diversity of People	2	Site use is narrowly focused
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	5	All will be walking at garden site
	Leisure Activities	4	Lots of waiting around time
	Garden in Traffic Flow	5	Major foot traffic path
	Irrigation Available	5	Currently irrigated
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>25</b>	
Sylvan Lake Park	Lots of People	3	Last FY – 253,216 people
	Diversity of People	3	Primarily soccer, but other uses too
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	3	Some park users will drive by
	Leisure Activities	4	Lots of waiting around/play time
	Garden in Traffic Flow	3	Some park users will not use the area
	Irrigation Available	5	Currently irrigated
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>22</b>	
Public Safety Administration Building	Lots of People	3	Traffic flow unknown
	Diversity of People	3	Limited to those seeking PS services
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	5	All on foot to enter building
	Leisure Activities	1	No
	Garden in Traffic Flow	3	There are several entrances to building
	Irrigation Available	5	Yes
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>21</b>	

Site	Criteria	Rating	Comments
Red Bug Lake Park	Lots of People	5	Last FY – 683,763 people
	Diversity of People	4	Mostly sports, but variety of other uses
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	1	Not at proposed site
	Leisure Activities	4	Lots of waiting around/play time
	Garden in Traffic Flow	1	No, all will be drive-by
	Irrigation Available	5	Yes
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>21</b>	
Black Hammock Trailhead – Cross Seminole Trail	Lots of People	3	Not known at this time
	Diversity of People	4	Limited to outdoor activities fans
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	2	Many are on bikes, roller blades, horses
	Leisure Activities	3	Trail users may not linger at trailhead
	Garden in Traffic Flow	4	Adjacent to flow
	Irrigation Available	3	Needs to be extended from horse trough
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>20</b>	
San Sebastian Trailhead – Seminole Wekiva Trail	Lots of People	2	Last Calendar Year – 92,500 people
	Diversity of People	4	Limited to outdoor activities fans
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	2	Many are on bikes, roller blades, etc.
	Leisure Activities	3	Trail users may not linger at trailhead
	Garden in Traffic Flow	4	Adjacent to flow
	Irrigation Available	3	Needs to be extended
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>19</b>	
Entrance to Five Points Facility	Lots of People	5	Thousands drive by every day
	Diversity of People	5	All kinds of people will drive by
	Educational Site Use	1	No
	Foot Traffic	1	None will be on foot
	Leisure Activities	1	People are driving by at 50 mph
	Garden in Traffic Flow	4	Adjacent to flow
	Irrigation Available	1	None available
	<b>Total Rating</b>	<b>18</b>	