Waterways Forum #5: Recreational, Cultural & Educational Facilities in & along the Waterways

March 12, 2014

Kim DeLaney, Ph.D.
Strategic Development Coordinator
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

Overview & Project Approach

St. Lucie County
Transportation
Land Use Patterns
Environmental Systems
Economic Opportunities

Martin County
Parks & Recreation
Natural Resources
Public Access

120+ Miles of Waterways

Overview

Waterways Educational Forums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marine Transportation</td>
<td>December 19, 2013</td>
<td>12-5 PM</td>
<td>Indian Riverside Park Historic Shops &amp; Historic Pavilion 17th Street South Entrance, 171, 34982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use &amp; Upland Transportation</td>
<td>January 8, 2014</td>
<td>2-5 PM</td>
<td>Historic City Hall 225 South Avenue Fort Pierce, 34946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regulation &amp; Management of Waterways</td>
<td>January 29, 2014</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Stuart City Hall 227 SE Indian River Avenue (City Commission Chambers) East St., 34994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>February 27, 2014</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Port St. Lucie Community Center 285 SW Avenue B (City Commission Chambers) West St., 34983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation/Cultural/Educational Activities</td>
<td>March 12, 2014</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Port Salerno Community Center 1930 SE Avenue A (City Commission Chambers) North St., 34983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>April 25, 2014</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Port St. Lucie Community Center 285 SW Avenue B (City Commission Chambers) West St., 34983</td>
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</tbody>
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*Tentative dates, times & locations; confirmations pending*
Policy & Design Workshops

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 7 - 1 PM Wednesday</td>
<td>Port St. Lucie Civic Center (Port St. Lucie)</td>
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<td>May 8 - 1 PM Thursday</td>
<td>Indian RiverSide Park ( Jensen Beach)</td>
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<td>May 9 - 1 PM Friday</td>
<td>River Walk Center (Fort Pierce)</td>
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Project Schedule

Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
March 13, 2014

Refuge Quick Facts
- Date Established: 1969
- Two Tracts: Mainland and Jupiter Island
- Service Lands: 1,935 Acre
- Listed Species: nearly 40
- Federally Listed Species: 14
- Species of Federal or State Management Concern: 27
Jupiter Island Tract
+/- 735 acres
Primary Habitats:
• Mangroves
• Coastal hammock
• Beach and Dune
Focal Species:
• Sea turtles
• Shorebirds

Mainland Tract
+/- 300 acres
Primary Habitats:
• Mangroves
• Coastal hammock
• Sand Pine Scrub
Focal Species:
• Gopher Tortoise
• Florida scrub-jay
• Lakela’s mint

Refuge Purposes
Primary Purpose:
“…to conserve (A) fish or wildlife which are listed as endangered or threatened species; or (B) plants…” (16USC1534, Endangered Species Act, 1973)

Secondary Purposes:
“…conservation, management, and restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans…” (16USC668dd(a)(2), National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, 1966)

“…suitable for 1) incidental fish and wildlife recreational development, 2) protection of natural resources, 3) preservation of endangered or threatened species…” (16USC715D, Migratory Bird Conservation Act, 1929)

“…for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources (16USC742F(a)(4), Fish and Wildlife Act, 1956)

Comprehensive Conservation Plan
Completed 2006
Goal: Wildlife-dependent recreation and environmental education
• Provides opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent recreation, including:
  • Recreational fishing
  • Wildlife observation and photography
• Environmental education and interpretation
Objective: Develop curriculum focused on IRL biotic communities

Total Nature Center visitors: 60,000
Total Outreach: 23,500
Total other visitation: 22,000
Total Jupiter Island Tract visitors: 70,000

Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge
Established in 1973 by Mr. Jackson Burke and Mrs. Elizabeth Kirby
Over 30 year cooperative agreement with the Service
Service provides and maintains facility
HSNC provides on-site environmental education and awareness programs
Hobe Sound Nature Center
Focal Areas

- Adult education
- Children's presentations
- Family oriented events: Earth Day, Refuge week, Creepy Creature feature
- Visitor contact
- Sea turtle walks

Biggest Challenges

- Refuge not waterways focused
- Lagoon access
- Funding and capacity
- Engaging non-traditional users
- Lack of a Lagoon partnership network

Opportunities

- Enhance Refuge IRL public use area through increased messaging
  - Ecological functions of IRL
  - Landscape scale value
  - Cultural/Archaeological Resources
  - Exotic species
  - Climate Change
  - Listed species
  - Geology

- Develop a Lagoon partnership group
  - Partner driven
  - Raises awareness
  - Enables a focus on issues
  - Increases communication throughout landscape

Opportunities

- Increase awareness of IRL recreational attributes
Panel 1: Recreational Facilities

Jim Lopilato
Parks Superintendent
Martin County

Martin County Parks & Recreation

Jim LoPlato
Parks Superintendent

Waterways Plan for Martin & St. Lucie Counties
Key Challenges

- Education About the Opportunities Available
- Pollution – Water Quality and Litter
- Expanding the Network
Inventory Existing Conditions

- Provide ample opportunity for public participation involving all segments of the community.
- Conduct studies periodically to estimate and analyze outdoor recreation demand;
- Evaluate demand for and supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities;
- Determine trends (2000-2010 Census):
  - 17.6% increase in population
  - 57% increase in Hispanic population
  - Average age increased from 38.7 to 40.7

Needs assessment

- Interviews, questionnaires

SCORP - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2013) – 5 years
- Evaluate demand for and supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities;
- Conduct studies periodically to estimate and analyze outdoor recreation demand;
- Provide ample opportunity for public participation involving all segments of the community;
- Identify state and national outdoor recreation trends and initiatives;

Develop LOS
UDT-SEAL Museum
Backus Gallery
Hisory Museum
Manatee Center
HBOI
Smithsonian Marine Station
PSL Botanical Gardens
County Aquarium
Oxbow Eco-center
Seven Gables House

Panel 2:
Cultural & Educational Facilities

Nancy Turrell
Executive Director
Arts Council of Martin County

Martin County’s Art Scene
Presented by
The Arts Council, Inc.
Providing advocacy and leadership that inspires participation in, and a passion for, the arts in our community.
Our Downtowns

Centers of Cultural Activity – Along our Waterways

• Stuart
• Hobe Sound
• Port Salerno
• Jensen Beach

Public Art

Stuart Beach – Mosaic Tile Mural Project
Artist: Brenda Leigh
Students from Jensen Beach High School

Sailfish Splash Park Murals
Artist: Julie Silk Beaumont

EcoArt

• Where art, environment and community engagement meet
• Past Projects:
  – EcoArt Treasure Coast (2009-10)
  – SFHS EcoArt (2011)
  – Stuart Rec Center (2012)
• New: Poppleton Creek / City of Stuart Project - 2014

The Arts Council, Inc.

Invites you to pARTicipate in the ARTS!
Become a Personal Member or Corporate Member/Sponsor.

80 E Ocean Boulevard
Stuart, FL 34996
772-287-6676
772-288-5301 (fax)
www.martinarts.org

Diane Pierce
Administrator
Environmental Studies Center
Jann Widmayer  
Curator  
Manatee Observation & Education Center

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oeIdqISDmvg

Panel Discussion  
& Questions

Next Forum:  
Waterways Forum #6: Economic Development  
Friday, April 25, 2014 (9 AM)  
Port St. Lucie Community Center  
2195 S.E. Airoso Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34984

Next Steps

Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge