

## MANAGERS UPDATE

Joe DeCerbo  
March 6, 2024

**MCKENNA REMEMBERED:** We will be continuing the St. Patrick's Day tradition that Tim had started over a decade ago. A lunch will be held at The Speakeasy at noon, after the Board meeting.

**AIRPORT LAWSUIT:** As expected, we have received a copy of the lawsuit filed by the Airport. It is on the website, and an e-mail blast has been sent to notify residents. It is now up to the residents and landowners to decide if we fight this litigation.

**COMCAST:** Had a very successful meeting in West Palm with COMCAST leadership. As a result, they have waived the \$65K installation costs at water plant #2 for high speed internet, and we have new contracts on our District facilities that are saving us \$250 per month.

**FUTURE PLAN LIST:** The attached list was discussed at the February meeting, and the Board needs to decide if we use reserve funds from this year's budget to proceed or wait until the FY'25 budget. If the Board decides to proceed, Diane will have a budget Resolution for the April meeting.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** This will be an agenda item to review and approve the briefing that was previously prepared and sent to you.

**UTILITY DATA AS OF MARCH 1st:** 1,753 water customers, 11 meters bought but not connected. By the end of the fiscal year there will be 52 apartments and 44 APEX garages on both water and sewer. As you ride around the District there are over 50 new home starts that have not bought meters yet. There are 318 current wastewater customers, and the Apartments and APEX will be on sewer when they come online. We now have 1,225 customers on ACH and 28 on credit card.

**10-YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN:** Ken Kirk and I reviewed the draft plans at the Catalyst offices on February 29<sup>th</sup>. The project is ahead of schedule, and we will have a draft for the Board to review at our May meeting.

**FRDAP GRANTS:** When Ken Kirk and I were with Catalyst Design we were informed that the list of approved projects to be funded by the State is done. There are hundreds of recreational projects submitted yearly, and about 75 are usually funded. Our Arbuckle Creek Park Project is ranked #7 statewide, and our Bark Park expansion is ranked #31. Unless the Governor reduces the FRDAP budget, we can expect funding. More details as they become available.

**DONATED COUNTY LAND:** Thank you to Ken Kirk for these great aerals.





**REPAIR/REPLACE DRAINAGE PIPES:** This item has been added to the projects list.





**E-MAIL BLAST LIST AND WEBSITE:** We now have 1,733 contacts registered for all notices, festival notices, or wastewater notices. As of March 4<sup>th</sup>, our site is still 100% accessibility compliant, as well as general website compliance per Florida Statutes.

**DISCOVER MAGAZINE:** I cut and pasted the three descriptions in the magazine that pertains to Spring Lake, and they are included in the Board packets. This is a popular magazine and gives us some good publicity.

**BARK PARK:** Capital improvements a big hit with the dogs!!!!!!



**ENTRANCE SIGNS:** The main entrance sign was renovated several weeks ago. Before we do the other entrances, we would like to hear your opinion on how it looks and whether you want the others to be done as well.



**COUNTY SRF PROJECT:** Highlands County is moving forward on their SRF loan for stormwater improvements. Since the County owns our roads and many of the control structures, we will be the recipients of a lot of drainage work. Me, Israel, Randy, and Gene met with County staff to begin developing work plans. More details to follow.