



**AGENDA
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
CITY HALL BOARDROOM
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ATTENDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) February 28, 2023 Minutes**
- 4. PRESENTATIONS**
 - A) Linear Park and 98 Palms Extension Conceptual Plan**
 - B) Twin Lakes HOA**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A) Adopt-A-Park Review**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) Park Inspection Assignments**
 - B) Arbor Day**
- 7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**
 - A) Nikki Johnson**
 - B) L'Rena Anderson**
 - C) Lisa Mason**
 - D) Isaac Birch**
 - E) Leslie Schmidt**
 - F) Daniella Piper**
 - ADA Beach Mats**
 - G) Sandy Trammell**
- 8. STAFF REPORTS**
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE: April 25, 2023**
- 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Comments from the public on any matters considered at the meeting, or on any matters not on the agenda)

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council, committee, board, panel, or agency with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such

purpose, he or she will may need to ensure that a record of the verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon the appeal is to be based.

"Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Public Services Office 850/837-4242 at least 48 hours in advance".

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
FEBRUARY 28, 2023 MEETING - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Trammell called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, in the Destin City Hall Annex Chambers with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>Staff Present</u>
Sandy Trammell	Leslie Schmidt	Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Nikki Johnson	Isaac Birch	Lisa Firth Recreation Director
Daniella Piper		Ryan Reed Dep. Recreation Director
Lisa Mason		Michael Baird Parks & Rec Supervisor
L'Rena Anderson		Webb Warren Deputy City Manager

3. AGENDA APPROVAL:

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 22, 2023

Motion to approve the January 22 meeting minutes as written was made by Vice Chair Piper with Chairwoman Trammell providing the second. The motion passed 4-0.

5. PRESENTATION:

➤ **Tarpon Beach Access 30% Plans**

Mr. Warren provided the members with the 30% design plans for the beach access at Tarpon Street, explaining the details of the parking spaces for both cars and low speed vehicles, and pavilion designs, as well as the plans for the view corridors.

Chairwoman Trammell recommended that they turn the pavilions and the bathroom buildings vertical so that would open up more of the view corridors. She also suggested pavers be put down where the LSV parking is located to allow for better drainage, noting that if there is a significant rain event she doesn't see how the stormwater could be held in what is shown and does not want to risk it overflowing down onto the beach.

Mr. Warren spoke of how that is a great idea, and no one has suggested repositioning the pavilions and bathrooms, which could potentially allow for 20 more feet of the view corridor.

Committee member Johnson asked if the parking would be pay to park. Mr. Warren explained the interlocal agreement the city signed with the county does not allow for charging for parking, because county funds are being invested in the project. However, the street pay to park will be maintained and the locals can use their passes for those.

➤ **Shore at Crystal Beach**

Mr. Warren explained this is the property the city obtained and is the one on the east side of the big white house they were unsuccessful in obtaining so, presently, because of the size, it will be turned into an LSV parking only lot for beach access. Adding that the building may also be able to be changed to a vertical one as to open up the view corridor.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Adopt-a-Park**

Mrs. Firth explained staff is seeking their feedback on the information they were previously provided and asked if they are agreeable with it as it is, or do they feel it needs additional information added.

Chairwoman Trammell stated she feels the safety guidelines and the release form needs to be included or at the very least, ensure that they are included when they hand the information out to the public. Additionally, the point of contact person and the phone number should also be indicated on the first page of the initial form.

Motion to approve the Adopt a Park program with the discussed changes made to the form was made by Committee member Johnson with Vice Chair Piper providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Murals**

Mr. Reed explained that City Council approved Destin High School to create a mural for Royal Melvin Heritage Park. Adding that so far nothing has been finalized at this point and as information progresses he will keep them informed.

The Chair spoke of how she found out the FPL would not allow for murals to be added to their utility boxes because they offer a certain number of wraps. She then spoke to the member of her idea to have the fabric covering on the fencing at the Morgan Sports Center at the Children's Park to have murals added to it, similar to what was done to the fencing that surrounded the construction site of the Emerald Grande while it was being built.

➤ **Park Inspection Assignments**

There was a brief discussion regarding changing up the assignments so that everyone could have their assignments closer together to make it easier on each of them getting to their locals. Each member reviewed and picked the parks they would review.

Chairwoman Trammell asked if staff would make the document fillable so they could go to the form and input their information.

➤ **Agenda Publishing Timeline**

Mr. Reed informed the members that he is working on getting them the information in a timelier fashion and asked the members to do the same regarding any subjects they may want to add to the agenda for discussion.

Mrs. Firth added that the deadline for items to be added to the agenda will now be the Wednesday before the meeting, so that everything can be added and it can be broadcasted out by the Friday before their meeting. Adding that this allows for staff members, who are responsible for reviewing, approving, and disseminating the agenda, time to do so.

8. MEMBER COMMENTS:

Committee member Johnson – Spoke of how the Joe's Bayou Park plans has deviated quite a bit from the original plans that was presented to this committee a few years ago before the pandemic. She spoke of how important it is that the members understand the language in the grant proposal and the reason why the city is building the park. She explained that the grant came about from the money distributed after the oil spill and it has very specific reasons on how the money is supposed to be used. Reading the top five goals of the grant being:

- To enhance public access to natural resources for recreational use such as fishing or boating with a combination of ecological restoration and creation of infrastructure access in useful opportunities.
- To enhance recreational experiences to promote environmental stewardship and education.
- To create and restore and enhance the coastal wetlands.
- To restore or survey habitat.

She spoke of how she feels that what was brought back to them are not the goals of what was set forth to do and what was presented to them when the Lance Johnson came before the committee and spoke to them in 2018 timeframe. She spoke of how he informed the committee that 80% of the park had to stay in its natural habitat and the intentions of the grant is to restore it back to its natural environment and not to pave it over to allow for large trucks and trailers to park. She spoke of how there is no longer a lot water access for the majority of the residents that live in west Destin since the area under the bridge was closed to the public, and how this is an opportunity with a waterfront piece of property, to enhance the

little beaches and places where people like to swim safely and, it is the only place in Destin where residents will be able to take their dogs to swim. She referenced the 2019 Agenda Item where the Parks & Recreation Committee unanimously recommended to City Council that when the Joe's Bayou Recreation is expanded, that an on leash dog friendly area was to be a part of the plan, emphasizing that Leonard Destin Park and Clement Taylor Park both have areas for children to play and have access to the water. She also recommended eliminating the walkover the pond because of it being a designated wetlands and the fact that people will litter and spoke of how much trash is in the Mattie Kelly Wetlands because people go in along the walkways and leave their trash in there, and she is concerned that the same thing will happen in the pond area and will impact the wildlife that live in there. Also, the #4 area on the plans, that has the break-aways, there is also a designated wetland area and she wants to make sure it's being considered and keeps that designation. Lastly, she doesn't feel the amount of parking planned is necessary, because, living close by, she sees the parking spaces sit empty on a daily basis, unless they somehow foresee the daily use of the park to increase, she also does not agree with the need to pave those areas for 20 more parking spaces and spoke of how those areas should be planted with natural plants to help nourish the natural wetlands, emphasizing that there is very little left in Destin, as indicated on the wetlands map, and of paving it over, to her is not ideal.

Vice Chair Piper spoke of how Liza Jackson Park has both a dog on leash area and an area for children that has signage about the rules and it seems to be working just fine with no issues. She feels that as long as this park has the same coverage of signage that it should be fine too.

Mrs. Firth explained that the on leash dog area is actually a decision for the city of make and not the designers of the park.

Committee member Johnson emphasized that she just wanted to make her statement clear and on the record because at their previous meeting last month, that she was unable to attend, this committee made a recommendation for areas to have dogs restricted and that sentiment was also repeated at the workshop and that, was not what was originally intended by this committee.

Committee member Lisa Mason – Spoke of how when she found Jewel Melvin Park, she felt it to be not very safe and asked to be enlightened on why the park is even there. Mrs. Firth explained it's more of a neighborhood park for Twin Lakes and has asked for the Sheriff's Department to include it in on their patrols. Also, the residents of the neighborhood keep an eye out for it as well. Chairwoman Trammell suggested this park would be a good candidate for the Adopt-a-Park program.

Chairwoman Trammell – Spoke of the proposal for the Linear Park and how most of it will just be a sidewalk from 98 Palms to Airport Road with portions of the western side

having a road connecting from apartments to 98 Palms Blvd. Mrs. Firth stated this should be brought to them at their March or April meeting.

Committee member Piper asked if there is an update on the portions that would encroach on private property. The Chairwoman stated that most likely those areas will change, once those conversations take place. She briefly spoke of the grant that Representative Maney obtained for the park that has a short timeline for it to be used or the money will be lost.

The Chair then brought up the fishing line initiative that was brought before them at their last meeting to raise funds to purchase the PVC supplies. Because of the size, everyone agreed that it's too small to get the line in it and could easily be dropped and have to be picked up to get it out of the environment. She suggested that if anyone wanted to do a project, to make them larger and for private use for people to install on their own docks and, suggested it be something the high school could do in their fishing class.

➤ **Staff Reports**

Mrs. Firth provided the following updates:

- Royal Melvin Park is still not ready.
- The road to Norriego Point will begin in March – the parking lot will be fenced in while the road is under construction. There will be walking path for the public to access the beach.
- Destin High School is back at the Destin Elementary School because of the work that is being done on the fields by Destin Water Users.
- Staff is seeking plans for replacing what is in the Children's Park at Morgan's

➤ **Next Meeting March 28, 2023**

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

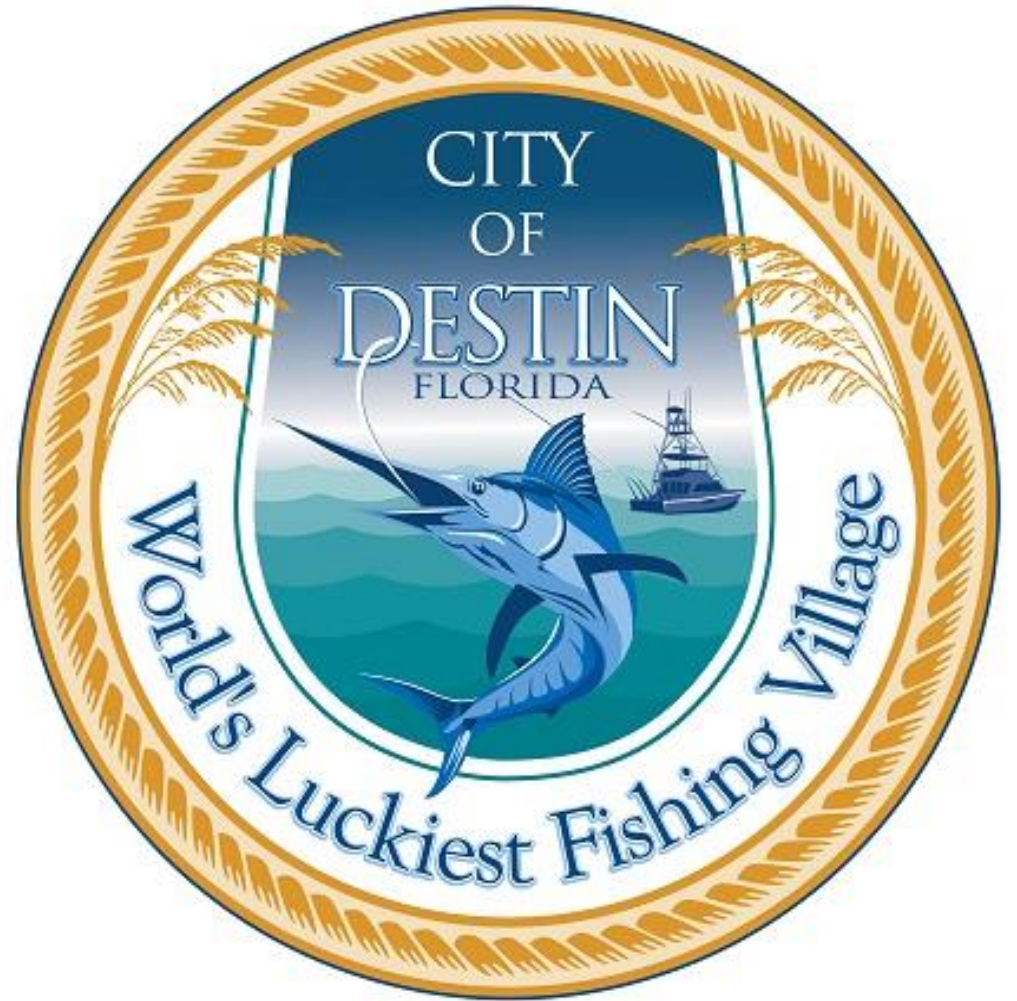
Adopted and approved this ____ day of _____ 2023.

Sandy Trammell, Chairwoman

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk

Linear Park & 98 Palms Extension Conceptual Plan

Community Development
Engineering Division

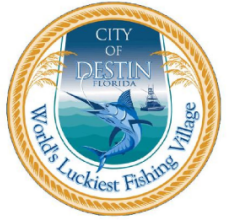


Background

Chapter 2: Transportation Element (Adopted November 3, 2014)

- **Policy 2-1.1.1:** Pursue Additional Road Corridor Improvements
- **Policy 2-1.1.2:** Relieve Congestion
- **Policy 2-1.1.3:** Maintain New Road Corridor Alignments
- **Map 2-1:** NEEDED Motor Vehicle Transportation Improvements

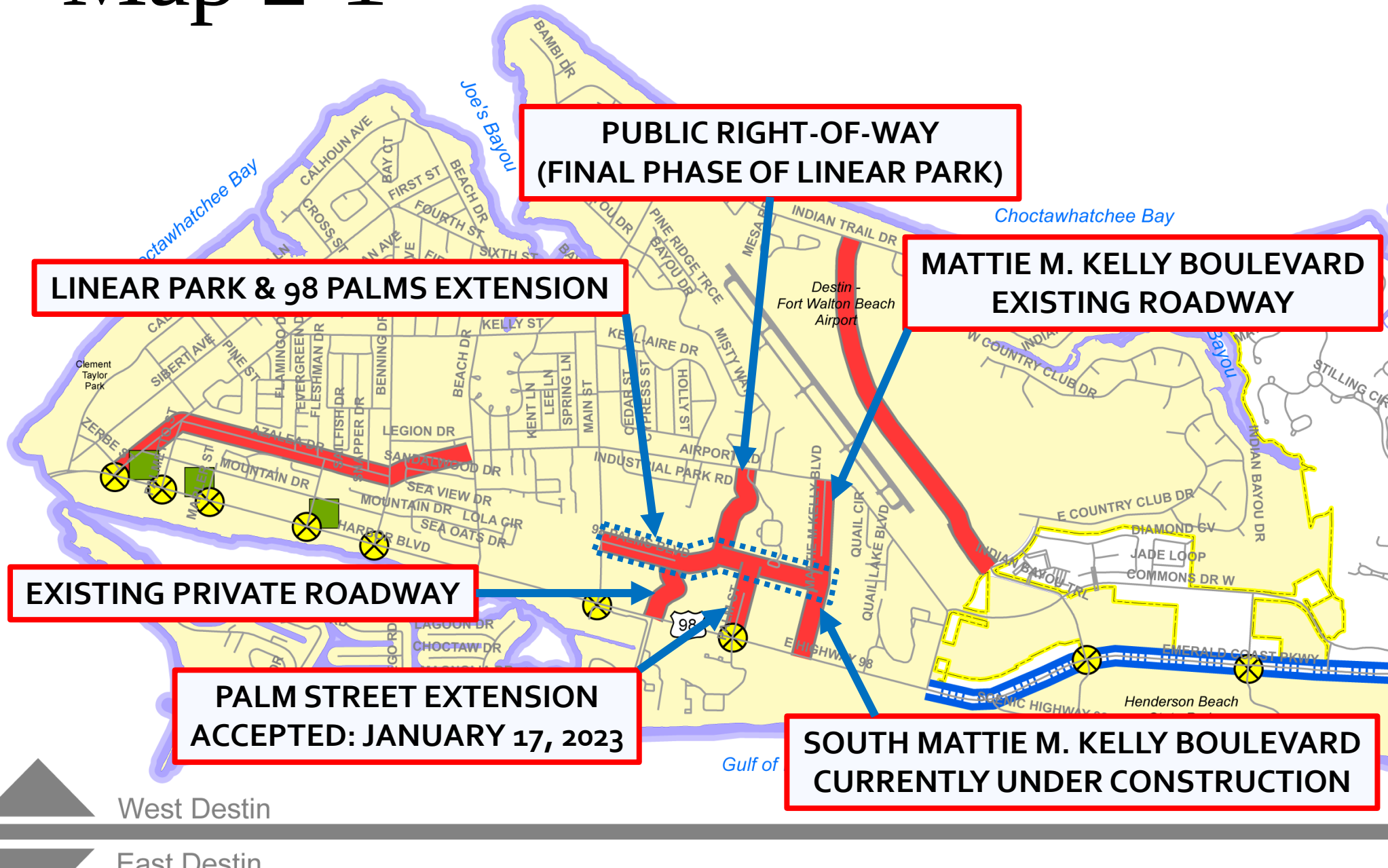
Map 2-1



**Map 2-1
NEEDED
Motor Vehicle
Transportation
Improvements**

Proposed

-  Potential Public Parking
-  Proposed Intersection Improvements
-  New or Reconstruct Urban Collector
-  Widen to 6 Lanes
-  City Limits



Project Requirements

Land Development Code (LDC)

Article 8 – Transportation

- **8.07.02:** Pathways Master Plan
- **Table 8-7B:** Level Two Priority Planned Improvements

Land Development Code

Article 8 – Transportation

- **8.01.00(E)(3)(d)(i)(b):** Transportation Corridor Management Plan
- **8.07.02:** Pathways Master Plan
- **Table 8-7B:** Level Two Priority Planned Improvements

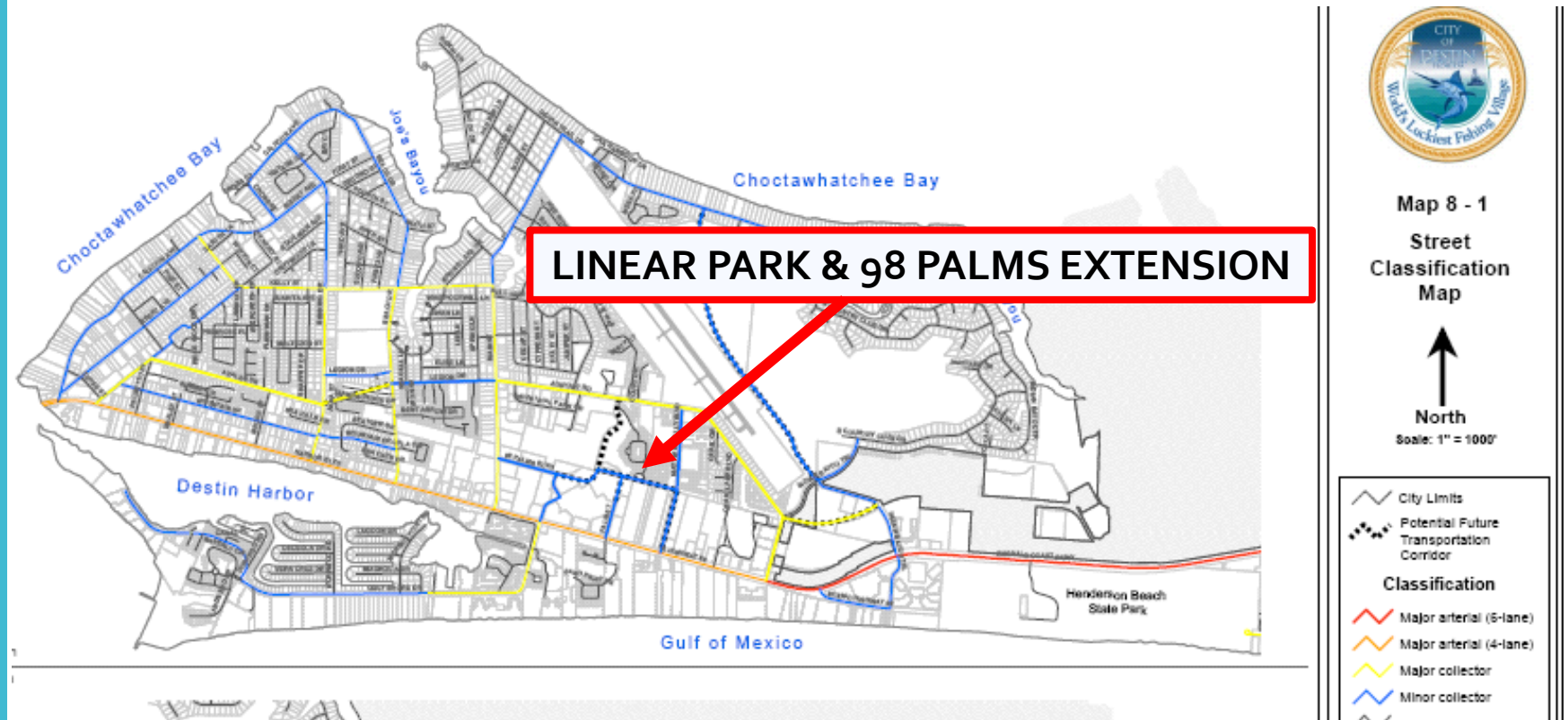
TABLE 8-7B: LEVEL TWO PRIORITY PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS				
PLANNED IMPROVEMENT		LOCATION / DESCRIPTION	PRIORITY	
			RANKING	
MAP CODE	ROADWAY		TOTAL	RANK
	NAMES		POINTS	
MUT-5	Gulf Power Easement	Multi-use trail along the Gulf Power Easement from the west side of Airport Road to the east side of Main Street.	9	24-26

b. The secondary east-west alignment shall begin where 98 Palms Boulevard currently ends and extend eastward to connect with the future extension of Mattie M. Kelly Boulevard. The exact alignment for this roadway shall be established pursuant to Section 8.01.00.E.3.c. The width of the right-of-way for this alignment shall be a minimum of 80 feet.

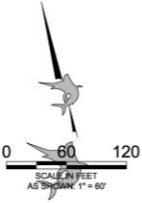
Land Development Code

Article 8 – Transportation

- Map 8-1: Street Map Classification



Project Concept Plan

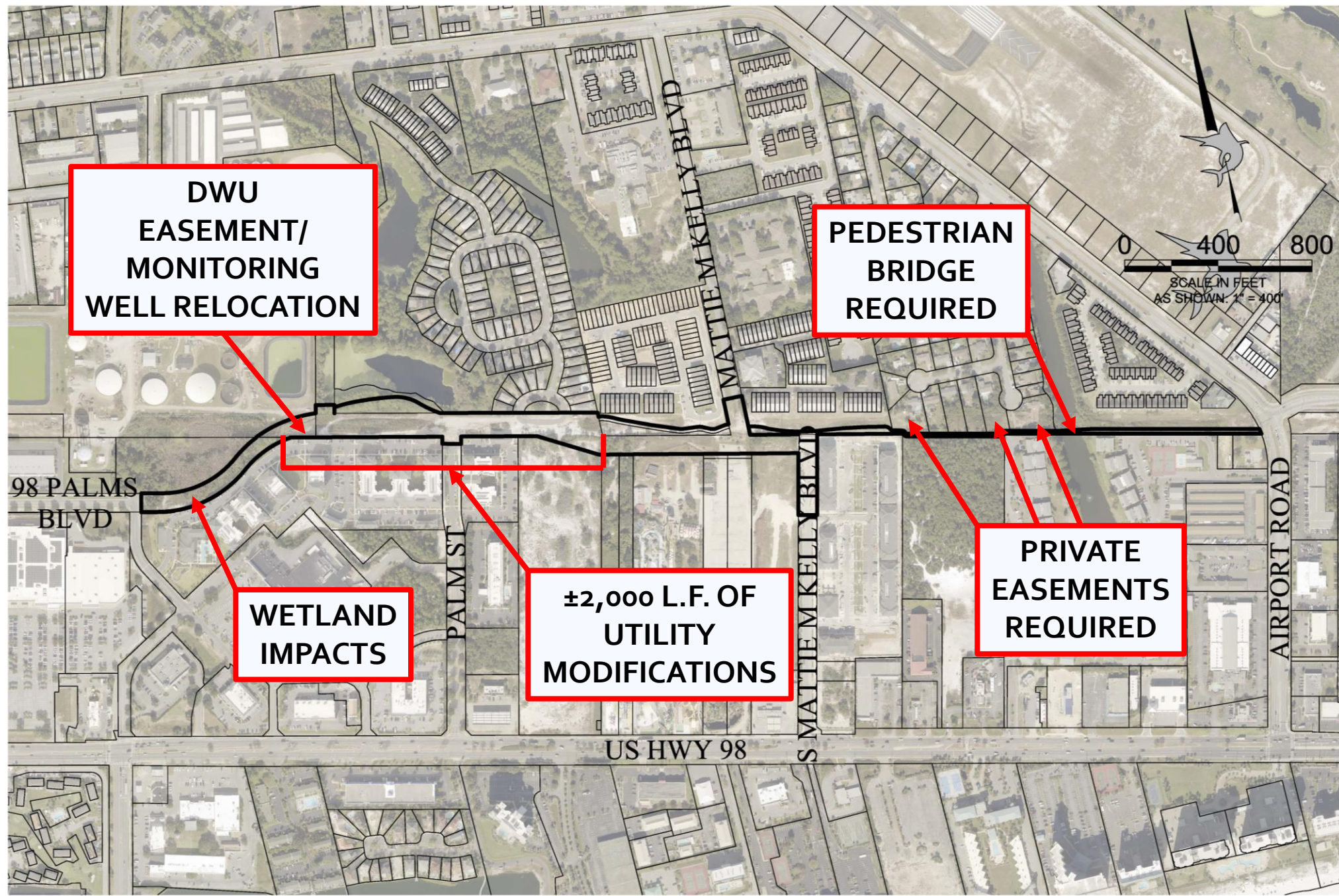


NOT FOR
CONSTRUCTION

Everything is
Figureoutable

Project Issues of Note

- Wetland Impacts
- Roadway Easement from DWU required
- Relocation of DWU infrastructure
- Drastic elevation changes (ADA compliant)
- Retaining walls will be required
- Fill, Fill, Fill
- Easements from private residents
- Impacts to FPL infrastructure
- Stormwater – StormTech type system used at CTC
- Variances will be required



**DWU
EASEMENT/
MONITORING
WELL RELOCATION**

**PEDESTRIAN
BRIDGE
REQUIRED**

**WETLAND
IMPACTS**

**±2,000 L.F. OF
UTILITY
MODIFICATIONS**

**PRIVATE
EASEMENTS
REQUIRED**

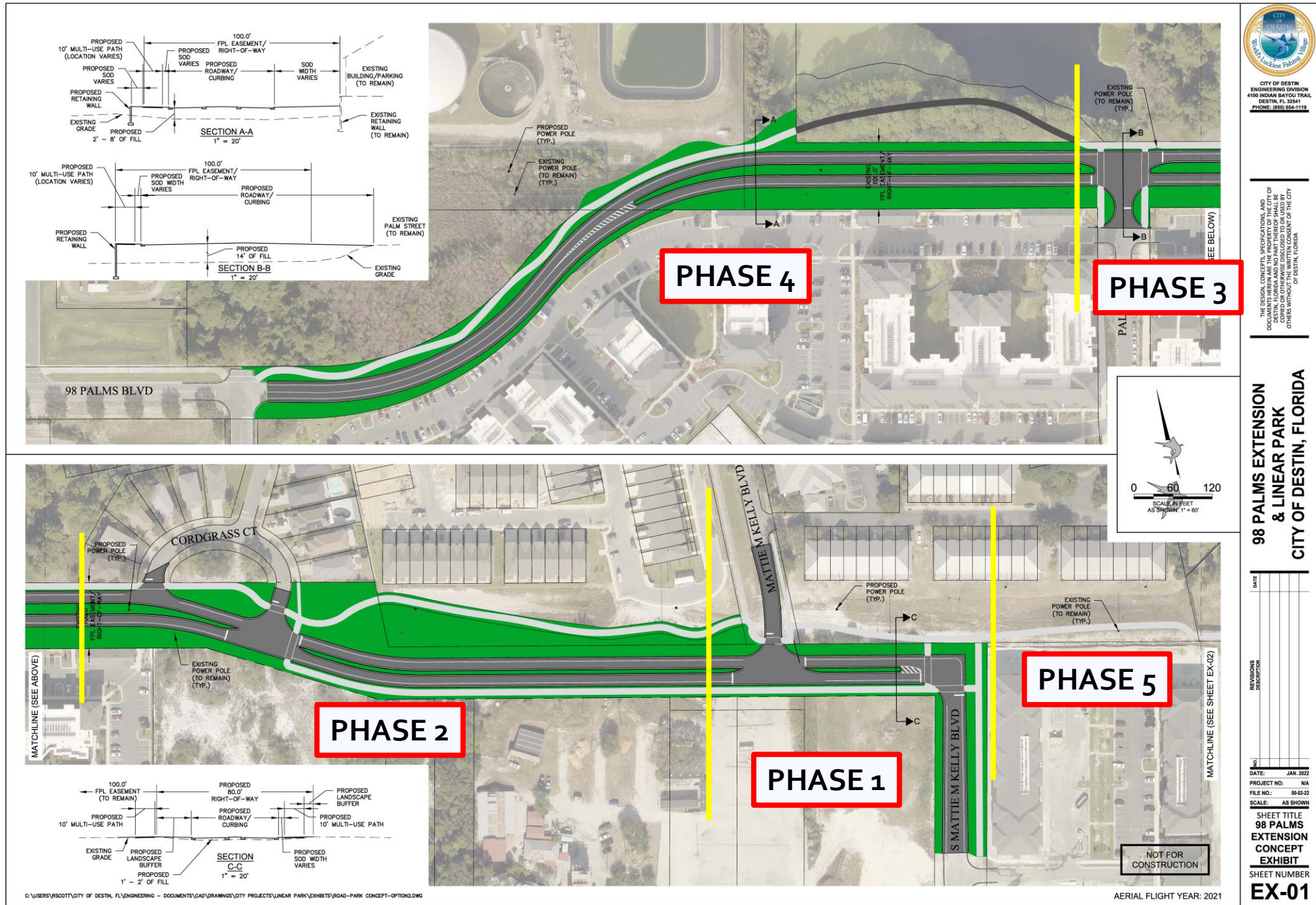
98 PALMS
Blvd
Connection
&
Wetland
Impacts



Palm Street Connection & Jewel Melvin Park



Project Phasing Plan



Grant Information

Project Funding

- Current grant for the design of a Linear Trail **ONLY**.
 - Set to expire in October 2023.
- ~~Request an extension once a designer is selected and a timetable is provided.~~
- The road and trail should be designed together.
 - This will eliminate any future compatibility issues.
 - Will provide a longer-term benefit to the Community.

Project Next Steps



- RFQ was released for a complete road & trail design
- While the RFQ is out Staff will present to:
 - Town Center CRA Advisory Committee (3/16)
 - Public Works/Public Safety Advisory Committee
 - Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
 - Local Planning Agency
- Incorporate feedback and recommendations into the overall design
- Request variance through the Board of Adjustment once all are identified
- Present to all above-mentioned Committees for final approval
- Receive final approval from City Council

Council Action



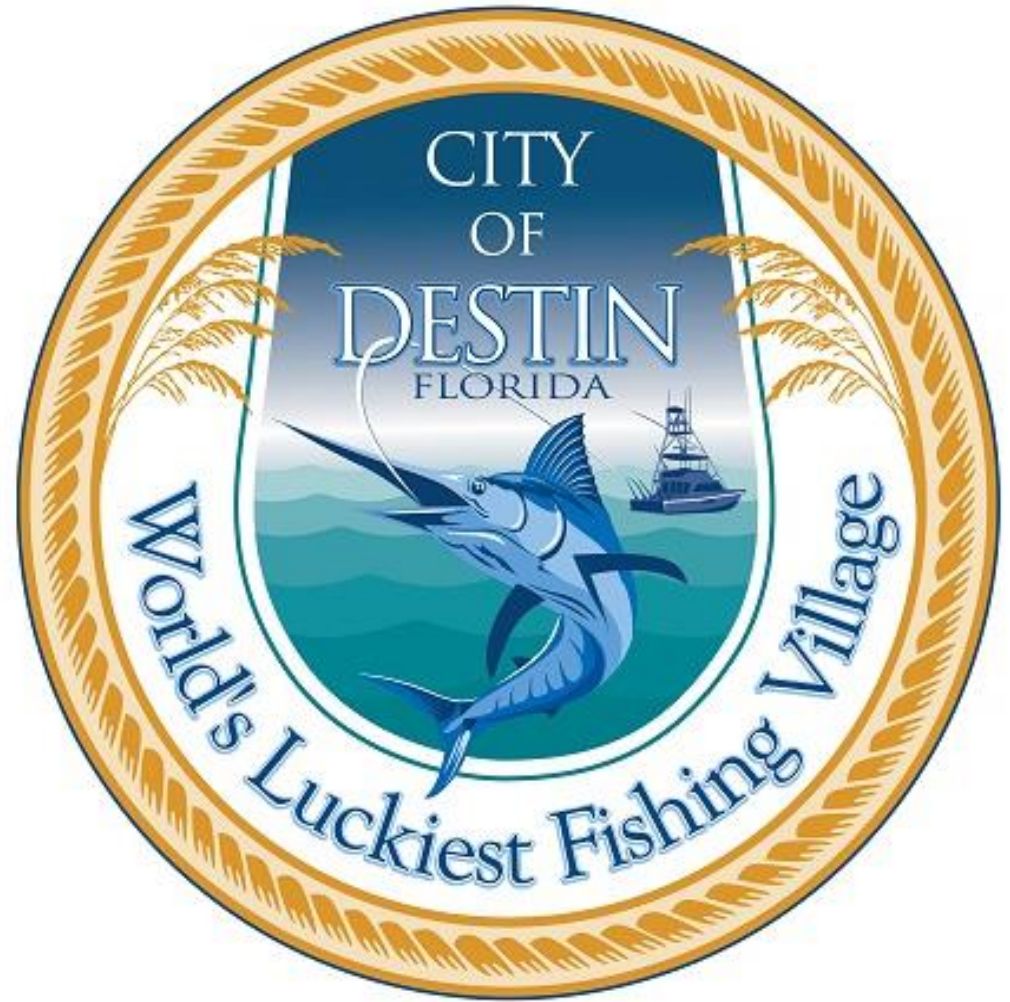
REQUEST FOR PARKS AND RECREATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- Provide suggestions to the design and desires from the committee.

NOTE:

- *Once an Engineering Firm is selected with pricing for design, Staff will come back to City Council to discuss additional funding options for the project (if needed).*

Questions?



Twin Lakes/98 Palms Thoroughfare Concerns

Mike Irons
Twin Lakes HOA President
21 March 2023

Twin Lakes
neighborhood,
85 homes densely
packed into 13 acres
between Airport Rd
and Big
Kahunas/Winn-Dixie



Twin Lakes Lane
any day of the
week



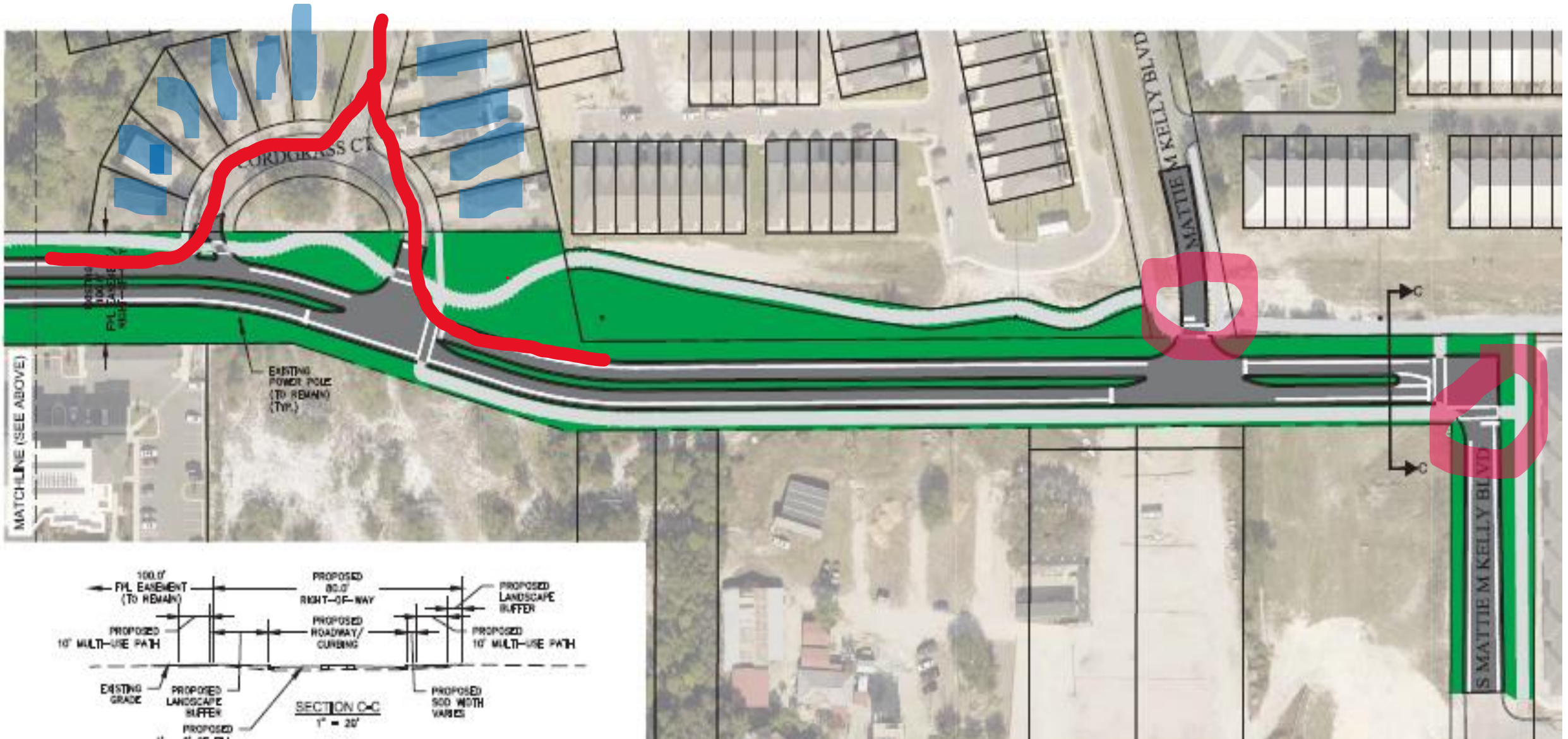
Twin Lakes Lane
any day of the
week





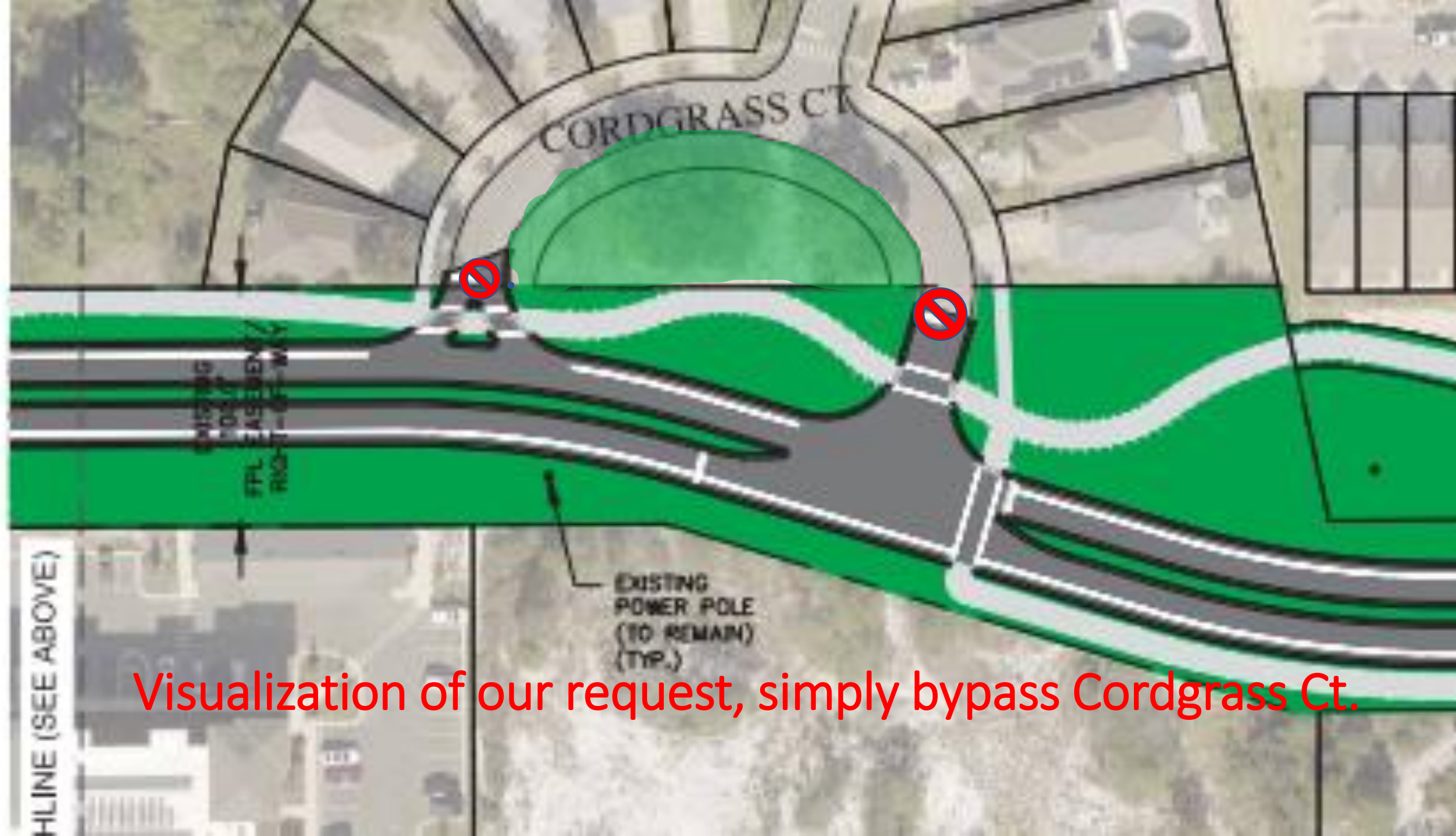
Conceptual plan connects Cordgrass Ct to new 98 Palms extension diverting traffic directly in front of our homes.

Other proposed outlets do not pass directly through neighborhoods.



Twin Lakes HOA zero cost request

- Twin Lakes has been a single ingress/egress for 20+ years
- Creating a thoroughfare through our neighborhood will wreak havoc on our already crowded streets
- Not one owner in Twin Lakes has expressed a desire to have another outlet from our neighborhood
- Twin Lakes streets are publicly maintained. Our HOA reserves can't afford to privatize and maintain the current infrastructure. We also cannot get a 100% vote to do so.
- **Before investing any design dollars to create a thoroughfare through our neighborhood, we respectfully ask that a thoroughfare NOT be considered in the Master plan.**



Visualization of our request, simply bypass Cordgrass Ct.



City of Destin
Parks and Recreation Department
Adopt-A-Park Program
Application and Information Packet
2022





Adopt-A-Park Program

Group Leader Acknowledgement		
Group Name:		Date:
Group Leader:		
Phone #:	Email:	Number in Group:

The group leader, on behalf of the group, will be responsible for:

- Serving as the group's point of contact with the City of Destin.
- Completing the city provided overview of property, prior to the initial clean up event.
- Ensuring the group holds a clean-up event a minimum of every other month.
- Recruiting and supervising volunteers to participate in cleanup events.
- All safety equipment provided by the city.
- Returning city issued safety equipment when the group is no longer participating in the program.
- Presenting donated materials (i.e. flowers, trees) and ideas and having them approved by the Parks Director/Deputy Director.
- Notifying the City of planned cleanup events at least two weeks prior to the event.
- Holding a safety briefing with all volunteer participants before each cleanup event.
- Abiding by all city policies and procedures including, but not limited to, the Adopt-A-Park Safety Guidelines.
- Ensuring that all cleanup event participants are meeting the minimum age requirement (12 years old).
- Obtaining each participant's (or parent/guardian's) signature on the City of Destin Volunteer Release of Liability Form prior to each cleanup event commencing and returning said forms to the Adopt-A-Park coordinator.
- Providing the city with the cleanup event form after the completion of the cleanup event.

By signing below, I acknowledge and agree to the aforementioned responsibilities of the group.

Furthermore, I understand and agree that the City of Destin may amend or alter program procedures at any time.

Group Leader _____



Welcome to the Adopt-A-Park Program

The City of Destin's Adopt-A-Park allows local families, businesses, and community groups to perform a valuable community service by adopting Destin parks to keep clear of litter and debris. Groups who participate in the Adopt-A-Park Program will have their name listed on the City's website and signage installed at their adopted park. Although accolades are enjoyable, the real reward is taking pride in your community and knowing you are part of a team that keeps Destin beautiful.

Who can participate?

The program is open to local organizations, civic groups, churches, neighborhood associations, businesses, and individuals with a willingness to accept responsibility for adopting a park for two years. Participating youths must be at least 12 years of age and have parental permission. Adoption is renewable, given the program requirements are met.

What Parks are eligible to adopt?

For updated information on which parks are currently available for adoption, contact the Adopt-A-Park coordinator, Ryan Reed, at 850-650-1241 or at adoptapark@cityofdestin.com.

How do I participate?

To participate, an adopting group must:

- ✓ Discuss, with the city's Adopt-A-Park coordinator, which park they wish to adopt.
- ✓ Submit a completed Adopt-A-Park application to the Parks and Recreation Department.
- ✓ Designate a group leader (must be 21 years of age or older) who will serve as the liaison between the group and the City of Destin.
- ✓ Commit to picking up litter at a designated park at least every other month. You are encouraged to clean your park more often if needed.
- ✓ Perform litter removal in strict accordance with the city's Adopt-A-Park Safety Guidelines and obey all rules and safety requirements of the program.
- ✓ Provide city-issued safety items to all cleanup participants and require all participants to wear reflective safety vests during the cleanup.
- ✓ Require the group leader to review safety guidelines, with the group volunteers, prior to cleanups.



Adopt-A-Park Safety Guidelines

Prior to litter cleanup event:

- Group leader shall review safety guidelines and participate in safety training (as determined by the city) prior to the initial cleanup event.
- The group leader, prior to commencing cleanup events, shall hold a safety briefing with all participants and ensure that all participants and/or guardians have signed the Volunteer Release of Liability form.
- The group leader should have a first aid kit available
- The group leader should show the route to the nearest emergency center and always have a phone available.
- The group leader shall obtain safety vests and garbage bags from the city.

Arriving to the site:

- Be sure to carpool when you travel to your park. It is important to keep the number of cars, at the site, to a minimum and always park clear of the roadway.
- Use parking lots and wide spots whenever possible.
- Do not bring small children or pets along on cleanups.

Dress for safety:

- Wear your city issued safety vests at all times.
- Wear light or brightly colored protective clothing and dress appropriately for the weather conditions.
- Do not wear clothing that will hinder the sight of participants.
- Heavy gloves and closed toed shoes or boots are recommended.
- Wear a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, or a long sleeve shirt to protect against the sun.
- Do not use headphones or other accessories that may restrict your vision or hearing.

Volunteer Release of Liability

All participants under the age of eighteen (18) must have a separate Volunteer Release of Liability Form signed by their parent or guardian.

Signed release forms must be returned to the City of Destin's Parks and Recreation Department prior to participation in the City of Destin "Adopt-A-Park" Program activities.

Volunteer Organization	Date

I do hereby release and discharge the City of Destin and its officers, agents, and employees from all claims, demands, and causes of action of every kind whatsoever for any damages and/or injuries that may result from my participation in the City of Destin "Adopt-A-Park" Program and/or other volunteer activities occurring on or near city road rights-of-way, on city property, or in city buildings.

I further agree to hold harmless the City of Destin, and its officers, agents, and employees from liability for any damages or injuries resulting from any negligence or willful wrongdoing on my part during my participation in said volunteer activities occurring on or near the state/city road rights-of-way, on city property, or in city buildings.

I have attended the safety briefing as a prerequisite to participation in the City of Destin's "Adopt-a-Park" Program.

[illegible]

Volunteer Release of Liability
City of Destin “Adopt-A-Park” Program
(For Participants Under Age 18)

All participants under the age of eighteen (18) must have a separate Volunteer Release of Liability Form signed by their parent or guardian.

Signed Release Forms must be returned to the City of Destin’s Parks and Recreation Department prior to participation in the City of Destin “Adopt-A-Park” Program activities.

Volunteer Organization	Date
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I do hereby release and discharge the City of Destin, and its officers, agents, and employees from all claims, demands, and causes of action of every kind whatsoever for any damages and/or injuries that may result from my participation in the City of Destin’s “Adopt-A-Park” Program and/or other volunteer activities occurring on or near city road rights-of-way, on city property, or in city buildings.

I further agree to hold harmless the City of Destin, its officers, agents, and employees from liability for any damages or injuries resulting from any negligence or willful wrongdoing on my part during my participation in said volunteer activities occurring on or near the state/city road rights-of-way, on city property, or in city buildings.

I have attended the safety briefing as a prerequisite to participation in the City of Destin’s “Adopt-a-Park” Program.

Minor's Name (please print)	Minor's Date of Birth
Minor's Signature and Date	
I certify that I am the above minor's legal parent or guardian and hereby grant permission for him/her to participate in the Adopt-A-Street Program. I further agree to abide by the stipulations set forth in the above paragraphs.	
Parent's or Guardian's Name (please print)	Parent's or Guardian's Address
Parent's or Guardian's Signature and Date	