

Manatee County Board of Commissioners

Re: Flagged Conservatory Park Budget hearing

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Adeana Osika, resident of Desoto Woods subdivision. I would like this letter added to the minutes as I am not able to attend in person.

The quality of life for citizens of all ages can be positively impacted by the Conservatory Park bike trails and ADA compliant hiking trails, and walking paths.

The residents need a non vehicular area for safe, outdoor activities. I am the mother of two small children who would use the park daily.

Since the beginning of the year three tragic deaths have occurred along Whitfield near the proposed park. Two teens and a mature woman were killed when a car veered into their path. The park would provide a safe and wonderful destination for the mixed demographics of the 31 subdivision within PACC.

Residents of Desoto Woods are ready to volunteer to do what is needed to assist with park maintenance. Our neighborhood is excited and ready for the park to be constructed so we can enjoy it.

The 1.7 million dollars in grant funds that was awarded to Manatee in 2004 for the Conservatory Park was paritally due to the tireless ambition of Desoto Woods residents and we are ready to see this carried through. Not following through after so much community support, together with the funding that was awarded feels fiscally irresponsible.

I ask for your support to start Conservatory Park now.

Thank you.



Adeana Tanko Osika

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7/29/11

