

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of County Commissioners
DATE: August 11, 2021
SUBJECT: IRC Administration Complex – Native Plant Garden Project
FROM: Laura Moss
Commissioner, District 5

IRC Administrative Complex – Native Plant Garden Project

My thanks to my colleagues for the benefit of your insight and your comments regarding this Project made at our meetings of May 18, 2021 and 11/17/2020. Ms. Stephanie Dunn, who is a Senior Designer at Cadence has sought to address all concerns expressed. She will be presenting the design proposal, which she based upon your input, via Zoom at this meeting.

Cadence is a professional Landscape Architecture firm based in Ft. Lauderdale.
<http://cadence-living.com>

As you may recall, Pelican Island Audubon Society has contracted for these services. There is no charge to the County budget. During the interim, other contributors have come forward to offer financial support for this Project, including:

Audubon Florida Society
Clean Water Coalition
Florida Power & Light (FPL)
Henry Fischer & Sons
Temple Beth Shalom/Interfaith Community Group of the Treasure Coast

The Project is intended to be educational for our community-at-large, as well as functional. It also affords us the opportunity to set a good example. As we all know, run-off into our Lagoon is a major problem that is amenable to mitigation through such measures.

Additionally, as we heard from St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) recently, water conservation is keenly important going forward. Native plant gardens are a natural way to conserve and protect our water. From SJRWMD's Central Springs/East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Draft (2020-2040), p. 58: "Continued investment in water conservation is critical . . . Education, outreach, and public engagement are essential for accomplishing a measurable change in water conservation . . ."

Laura Moss
Indian River County Commissioner
District 5