



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Assistant County Administrator /**  
**Department of General Services**

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**Date:** April 19, 2017

**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners

**Thru:** Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

**Thru:** Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

**From:** Beth Powell, Conservation Lands Manager

**Subject:** Notice of Application for Division of Historic Resources Grant for the Jones' Pier Fruit Stand and Educational Kiosks at Significant Sites along Historic Jungle Trail

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**DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS:**

The concept of the Historic Jungle Trail Greenway/Blueway ("Jungle Trail") was developed initially by Indian River County in 1987. In addition to focusing on the preservation of historic properties, the plan included a broad educational component with the goal of allowing the public to experience and become immersed in the elements of a historic working waterfront. Jungle Trail was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. The County along with other partners has acquired several parcels along the Jungle Trail (immediately adjacent to Jungle Trail and along the Lagoon on the mainland) that have been set aside for conservation including Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, Captain Forster Hammock Preserve, Archie Smith Fish House, the Kroegel Homestead and Jones' Pier Conservation Area. This project will be the initial step in creating an informational and education-driven link between these public parcels, all of which are key components in the history of Indian River County.

**THE PROJECT:**

This grant application centers on the restoration of the historic fruit stand at the Jones' Pier Conservation Area creating an anchor point for visitors who visit Jungle Trail. As shown in the photograph in Attachment A, this fruit stand was in operation by the Jones family for more than 70 years and was a historic stopping point along the trail, functioning both as a center of commerce and a hub for community interaction. By building the replica and creating a public interpretive station, this area will once again play a pivotal role, namely to help tell the story of Jungle Trail and the rich history of Indian River County (specifically in the area of Orchid Island). Through this project and highlighting the history of Jungle Trail, the project will serve to provide connectivity and continuity between key parcels purchased for conservation including: Jones' Pier Conservation Area, Captain Forster Hammock Preserve, the Kroegel Estate, Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, and the Archie Smith Fish House. Two other key parcels which will be included for educational displays are the Environmental Learning Center where the Laura Riding Jackson

House (circa 1910) is located and the Bridge Tender’s Site where the Wabasso Bridge (circa 1927) was historically located. The location of these sites is depicted on the map in Attachment B.

If funded through this grant, the County will create wayside exhibits for each site which will provide the visitors with descriptions of the rich history of the Indian River Lagoon and the Historic Jungle Trail. Visitors will be able to complete the tour guided by printed maps and a web app developed by the County which will provide a story connecting each historic property and highlight the unique aspects of the contributions of the pioneers of Indian River County.

Partners who have already shown an interest and provided letters of support are Pelican Island Audubon Society, the Environmental Learning Center, the Indian River County Historical Society, Senator Debbie Mayfield, Congressman Bill Posey, the Indian River Land Trust, and the School District of Indian River County.

**FUNDING:**

In December 2015, the Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Element for public access on conservation lands providing \$2.9 million dollars over 5 years to be utilized toward public access improvements. Priority was given to establishing trails and related trail structures at conservation areas that are nearing final completion with the FCT outlined obligations. This project has been identified as a top priority through this process. Funding sought from the Division of Historical Resources under this grant will provide \$27,500. The County proposes to match \$9,500 of in-kind services and \$18,500 in cash (see table below) through the use of the appropriate funding source.

	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Architectural Drawings	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 0	\$ 8,000
Sign Construction	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$ 0	\$25,000
Sign Design	\$ 4,500	\$10,000	\$ 0	\$ 9,000
Sign Installation	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Site Preparation	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Site Survey	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>	<b>\$18,500</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$55,500</b>

If awarded, the grant agreement will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval and the DHR funding would be available July 1, 2018. Concurrently, staff is pursuing elements related to the public access of Jones’ Pier Conservation Area including site planning and the FEMA restoration of damaged structures related to Hurricane Matthew. The Jones’ Pier will remain open for passive recreation during the grant review process and daily receives visitors at the docks which are open from sunrise to sunset.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Historic Photograph of Jones’ Pier Fruit Stand circa 1930

Attachment B – Proposed Locations of Wayside Exhibits

Attachment A – Jones' Fruit Stand circa 1930





Attachment B – Historic Jungle Trail Sites & Additional Historic Locations

