MINUTES
City of Cocoa
Regular Meeting of The City Council

August 24, 2021

A Regular City Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Jocelyn Scott and a friend provided the invocation and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Michael C. Blake	Mayor
	James Goins	Deputy Mayor
	Rip Dyal	Councilmember
	Lavander Hearn	Councilmember
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Kristin Eick	Assistant City Attorney
	Stockton Whitten	City Manager
	Carie Shealy	City Clerk

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tammy Gemmati, Administrative Services Director; Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; Evander Collier, Chief of Police; Jonathan Lamm, Fire Chief; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director; Rebecca Bowman, Finance Director; Samantha Senger, Assistant to the City Manager/PIO; Charlene Neuterman, Interim Community Services Director; Yvonne Martinez, Police Dept. PIO; and Trevor Roth, Helpdesk Support Tech.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. **Agenda:** Regular Meeting of August 24, 2021. (21-556)

2. **Minutes:** (a) Regular Meeting of July 13, 2021 (21-557)
(b) Regular Meeting of July 27, 2021 (21-558)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve the Agenda as presented for the Regular meeting of August 24, 2021.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn, to approve the Minutes as written for the Regular meeting of July 13, 2021 and the Regular meeting of July 27, 2021.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

III. Awards and Presentations:

1. Recognition of Denise Stewart as Cocoa High School's Assistant Principal of the Year. (21-543). (Mayor Blake)

Mayor Blake recognized Ms. Denise Stewart as the Assistant Principal of the year. Ms. Stewart spoke about the positive things going at Cocoa High with both the students and the community. She expounded on the CTE programs (Career and Technical Education) that are offered at the school and that they are helping those students who are not college bound. They are able to graduate high school with certifications and are eligible for better paying jobs. She spoke in detail about several of their programs such as construction, culinary and auto mechanics.

Lastly, Ms. Stewart announced that they were doing a female mentorship program and were looking for positive female relationships on campus as they feel everyone benefits from those. She invited Council to visit the campus.

Councilmember Hearn believes that these programs are great and that their athletic program was equally as great. Ms. Stewart thanked him and stated that although many come to the school for their athletics, they are also coached on academics as well.

Councilmember Koss presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Stewart recognizing her as "Cocoa High School's Assistant Principal of the Year for 2022".

2. Presentation on the Community Garden. (21-564). (Marlene Weiss, Sustainability Advisory Board Member)

Ms. Weiss, who is a member of the Sustainability Advisory Board, provided a brief background of the community garden and pointed out that they have grown a variety of crops there. She thanked members of Council and the City Manager for visiting the garden.

Preschoolers have been to the garden and have learned how food grows and she felt that everyone could use a reminder of seed to table and where food comes from. She noted that groups have come to put soil in the beds including the Rotary Club.

Ms. Weiss announced that they would like a "Seed to Table" harvest event and asked if they could have at least three years to continue the garden. She further asked for potable water.

Lastly, she showed photos[1] of the garden and in closing reiterated that they were asking for a three-year commitment and advertising of the garden. She thanked Council.

Deputy Mayor Goins thanked Ms. Weiss for her hard work and asked Ms. Neuterman the status of residential housing in the area. In response, Ms. Neuterman advised the property was back with the city and was no longer a Diamond Square parcel. It is also on the list of vacant properties for sale.

Deputy Mayor Goins felt that the garden should be in Fern and Prospect Park as he knows many of those neighbors would like to be involved. In response, Ms. Weiss stated she has gone back there but they were looking for bathrooms but agreed she would love to have one there.

Mayor Blake pointed out for the record that bathrooms were slated for Fern and Prospect Park.

Councilmember Koss thanked Ms. Weiss for her passion and for believing she can make things happen. She asked about Ms. Weiss's request for potable water. In response, Ms. Weiss noted that they have reclaimed but thought this could be a good test area for the potable.

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1 EXHIBIT A: Photos of the Community Garden presented by M. Weiss

Mayor Blake thanked her for her presentation.

IV. Delegations:

Bernice Cox, 701 Aurora Street, Cocoa, spoke in regards to Cocoa and Hilltop Cemeteries. She stated that both are being maintained but it was sloppy and asked if the inmates could be brought back to maintain them. Additionally, it has been twenty years and there are no signs stating what cemeteries they are. Ms. Cox further announced that she has a book with everyone buried in them before 1997 if they had a headstone. Lastly, she voiced concerns about a police issue she had regarding being stopped because she did not stop at the stop lines before the stop sign. She drove around and all areas of Cocoa are the same. She was given a verbal warning but asked that be looked into.

Pam Shaia, 308 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa extended a thank you to Cocoa Police Department. She had a great meeting on strategic proactive protection in the Village. She provided an example by speaking about an incident that happened over the weekend. She thanked the Chief and the Police Department for all of their efforts and hard work.

Terrance Thomas, 704 Rosa L. Jones, Cocoa, was also pulled over by an officer who had a negative attitude. He respects badges but is not going to be disrespected. He further spoke about the upcoming item regarding fencing of vacant lots and believes that if you are beautifying your property it should not be a problem.

V. Consent Agenda:

(A) General Consent Items:

1. Approve a Cooperative Purchase Agreement with Vortex Services, LLC, Houston, Texas, to Provide Rehabilitation Work on the Interior Chambers of the Surface Water Ozone Contact Unit at the Dyal Water Treatment Plant Utilizing Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) National Cooperative Purchasing Contract TP07-18, effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022 in the Amount of $1,079,074; To Approve a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Approve Change Orders in an Amount Not to Exceed $108,000 (approximately 10%) for a Project Total of $1,187,074, Project No. WS21OU; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY2021 Budget; BAF # 21-102-T. (21-511). (Utilities Director)

2. Authorize the City Manager to Approve Change Order No. 1 to FY21 P.O. 77443 with Connect Consulting, Inc. for Continuing Wellfield Evaluation and Rehabilitation Services for Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well Services; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY21 Budget; BAF # 21-106-PT. (21-513). (Utilities Director)

3. Authorize the City Manager to Approve Change Order No. 1 to FY21 P.O. #77438 with Bright House Networks (Spectrum) for Dyal WTP Fiber Services for the Remainder of FY2021. (21-534). (Utilities Director)

4. Approval for the City of Cocoa to accept the donation of a Western Shepard and a Belgian Malinois to be used in patrol K-9 for tracking, narcotics searches, and apprehensions by the Cocoa Police Department, to allow the City Manager to sign the Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement between the City of Cocoa and the Brevard Kennel Club and to approve a Resolution amending the FY2021 budget, BAF# 21-109-A. (21-545). (Chief of Police)

5. Approval to apply for forty-three Philips Heart Start FRx Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) through AEDGrant.com. (21-546). (Chief of Police)

6. Approve policy for Workers' Compensation Specific Excess Insurance with Safety National Casualty Corporation for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, with an estimated annual premium of $188,626, pending approval of the FY2022 budget. (21-548). (Administrative Services Director)

7. Approval of revised COVID-19 Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy extending benefits through September 31, 2021. (21-568). (Administrative Services Director)

(B) Multi-Year Contracts:

8. Approve for City Manager to Negotiate Contract to Award Bid No. 21-21-COC to Lord & Company, Fort Mill, South Carolina for the Upgrade of Lift Station SCADA RTU Panels, Project No. WS21LS; To Approve as a Multi-year Contract from FY2021 through FY2025; Pending Approval of FY22 through FY25 Budgets. (21-542). (Utilities Director)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Hearn; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to approve the Consent agenda.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Mayor Blake advised that Councilmember Dyal had a presentation with Chief Collier and the dogs that are being donated by the Brevard Kennel Club. Chief Collier thanked the Brevard Kennel Club for this donation and advised that they were in need of two K9's. He reiterated his thanks and noted that this was why community partnerships were so important.

Leslie Kovaks, President of Brevard Kennel Club, spoke in regards to what the Club does and that they are always supportive of the community. This is a love of dogs and community combined into one thing.

VI. Public Hearings:

None.

VII. Council Business:

1. City of Cocoa Parks Improvements and Concept Plans Presentation. (21-503). (Public Works Director)

Mr. Smith provided a presentation[2] on the improvements on parks within the City.

First, he discussed the improvements made in City parks by Brevard County.

Next, he reviewed City funded improvements and showed sign styles, benches, trash cans, and bike racks. New water fountains and picnic tables would be added where they can be. He stated all of the styles/designs would be the same throughout each park.

He showed the proposed location for a unisex bathroom at Carl Anderson Park. He pointed out since it is a smaller park so multiple restrooms may not be needed. There were also proposed restrooms at both Gilmore and Bracco Pond parks. He suggested eliminating the restroom at Bracco Pond but to incorporate a feature such as fitness stations.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Hearn; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to eliminate the restroom at Bracco Pond Park due to available funding; incorporate 8-12 fitness stations around the walking path; and have the remaining balance of funds to be utilized as contingency where needed for other improvements projects.**

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2 EXHIBIT B: City of Cocoa Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements Presentation

The motion was opened for discussion.

Councilmember Koss mentioned that the primary use for Bracco Pond is passive recreation and there is very little shade. She felt shade would be an important enhancement and would increase the usage. In response, Mr. Smith advised they were reviewing the canopy plan now and Bracco is on that list; however, they also need to ensure trees are located properly.

Deputy Mayor Goins asked about the costs of the fitness units and in response, Mr. Smith stated that it varies. This would probably be outsourced which would drive up the costs a bit.

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Mr. Smith continued and showed the potential locations for the splash pad and new pavilion at Junny Rios Park and lastly, he showed the Provost Park improvements. They all have the common theme improvements as well.

He noted that one item they needed action on was that the police department was looking at occupying the community action building, which would eliminate the need for security. Having a police presence there would go a long way. There is currently $60,000 allocated for that and he felt it was plenty to do what they want.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve staff's recommendation to let the Police Department occupy the building as the Police Dept. Provost Annex.**

Councilmember Koss questioned the improvements at Provost and if they included the tennis court. Mr. Smith reiterated the direction for the tennis courts from the previous workshop.

She further asked about the costs for the Junny Rios improvements of which Mr. Smith stated it was about $710,000 but that was rough estimates.

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Deputy Mayor Goins asked if Council could be kept apprised as these plans move forward, by email, so that they do not have to discuss them every time. He has more suggestions but would like to meet with Mr. Smith at a later time.

Mayor Blake felt a community meeting would be good so that the public can hear the plans for themselves.

Further discussion was held on the tennis courts at Provost Park. Mayor Blake believed that the location and cliental would dictate where they would be better utilized.

2. Review and select from the submitted artwork designs for the Public Street Art in front of the Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse. (21-537). (Assistant to the CM/PIO)

Ms. Senger reminded Council that in May the option was presented to put a piece of art in front of the Cocoa Village Playhouse. There were ten submissions, eight of which followed the criteria. The Cocoa CRA narrowed it down to the top three and a committee was put together at the request of the CRA, who also selected a piece.

She presented the finalists[3] and advised that Dr. Hawkins-Smith and Ms. Elliott chose #7, which is the art deco style. She provided a statement[4] from Dr. Hawkins-Smith who could not be in attendance tonight:

"If the council votes on the artwork that is based on the art deco style of the Playhouse, the artists will provide an image to be placed in the center that reflects either the drama masks or the performing arts. Also, the colors will be the exact specified colors of the interior of the Playhouse which is the metallic gold and burgundy. If this design is chosen, it is my belief that it is a design that can be used throughout the village by changing the interior image to reflect the desired theme based on where the artwork is placed."

Mayor Blake asked for a refresher of previous actions. In response, Ms. Senger explained that the CRA had selected the top three she is showing tonight. She further assured Council that they were going to recheck that the artwork would fit properly in the dimensions.

Councilmember Koss reiterated her points from the CRA meeting. She believed all three were gorgeous, and the first two would make great murals, but because this is an application to the street, the third design is art deco and represents the age and style of the playhouse. She will vote for #7.

Deputy Mayor Goins clarified that a drama mask would be added to the middle of the design. Ms. Senger stated that some of the CRA members liked the masks or

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3 EXHIBIT C: Final Art Selections for Cocoa Village Playhouse
4 EXHIBIT D: Statement from Dr. Hawkins-Smith

music notes and that a thought was to add a mask or musical note in the middle. He was in favor of #7 if an item was added to it.

Both Councilmember Hearn and Councilmember Dyal concurred with Deputy Mayor Goins.

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa, thanked Council for this and agreed for #7 and would like the drama faces in the middle. He stated that Dr. Hawkins-Smith is one of the reasons the Village is what it is today. He spoke about the measurements and felt it should be twice as large.

Mayor Blake was also in favor of #7.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve #7 as their choice with the recommendation from Dr. Hawkins-Smith.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

3. Staff is presenting two existing City Code sections for Council's consideration and direction: (1) Sec. 6-900 (b) (9), declaring it a public nuisance for any person to permit "a motor vehicle [to be] parked anywhere within the front or corner side yard area, except on city approved and permitted driveways;" and (2) Appendix A-Zoning, prohibiting fencing or walling vacant properties within residential zoning districts. (21-565). (Interim Community Services Director)

Mayor Blake advised that this item was regarding two issues and if you do for one, you have to do for all, which is the reason for the Board of Adjustment. Companies are coming to our city which is changing the image in a positive manner. If people start parking in yards he has a problem with that. He wants Cocoa to be aesthetically pleasing.

Ms. Neuterman spoke on this item and advised that at the last council meeting staff was directed to research and bring information back to council. She provided the two actions that they were requesting direction on.

Ms. Neuterman explained the code section in regards to motor vehicles being parked on non-approved parking services. She agreed that there were agreeable solutions to fixing this and an owner can work with the Planning & Zoning Board to make necessary accommodations. She further pointed out that changes to homebased businesses are coming so changing the code would change homebased businesses as well.

Staff's recommendation was to keep the Code as written. If any changes are necessary, the homeowner should present their case to the Planning & Zoning Board for consideration.

Ms. Neuterman discussed the second action item and explained that the Board of Adjustment has special powers to allow for a waiver for some of these issues. This is another issue that can be take care of through special exception by speaking with staff and working through those. She provided staff's recommendation which is to keep the Code as is on this issue as well.

Mayor Blake confirmed that if Council does not take action these will stay in effect.

Deputy Mayor Goins advised that he has been talking about these issues for a while and not one time did it come up about going to the Board of Adjustment from staff. He agrees with Mayor Blake 100% about the image of Cocoa, but his concern is the material that can be approved for a driveway on the side of a house. There are many residents who cannot afford pavers, concrete, etc. There are other options and he felt those should be put in writing for the community.

Councilmember Hearn agreed with Deputy Mayor Goins. There are many homes in his area that do not have a primary driveway. He agrees with the Code but his concern was the process for Board of Adjustment or Planning & Zoning Board. He feels that the process is not readily available to residents and it needed to be promoted so residents would know their options.

Councilmember Dyal asked for clarification on the front corner side yard and how he understood the Code to read. He did not feel it was fair for those paying taxes to take something away that is needed as long as they make it look nice. A waiver on the Board of Adjustment costs $250.

Councilmember Koss was sympathetic with the needs of young families and is concerned with businesses in homes. Home based businesses were some of the biggest complaints they have heard. She did not realize it was $250 to approach the Board of Adjustment and would be in agreement with a different material to make it more affordable for residents.

Mayor Blake pointed out that there is a Code and that there is a Code Manager, Mr. Bunt. People have been told they could put pavers down and Councilmember Hearn has stated he would help. There is a way to implement this without going to the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Bunt provided an outlet, all one has to do is communicate with him. He reiterated his point that there is a plan and a way that this can be addressed if you communicate with the proper authority. Why go through the hassle when there is a remedy.

Furthermore, Mayor Blake understands that Cocoa has older homes but the point is, is that there is a solution that can be worked through without changing the Code. We are moving in the right direction. We can continue to dwell on this or move forward.

Deputy Mayor Goins asked if he was against adding 57 Stone to the ordinance and he explained what that material consisted of. Mayor Blake was not against it but wanted to hear from the proper staff. Deputy Mayor Goins added that when people get cited they cannot have the conversation with all necessary staff at one time.

Mayor Blake stated this was the first time he has heard of this material.

City Manager Whitten noted that when you look at staff's recommendation, they have not made any recommendations in terms of the ordinance. What is being discussed is if they want to add stone or some other type of stabilization material, that goes to the Planning & Zoning staff. He asked if 57 Stone was a white rock.

In response, Deputy Mayor Goins stated it was white and crushed concrete as well.

Ms. Neuterman pointed out that 57 Stone was not an accepted material to use. It would be a staff issue if they wanted to use that. A person would need the Planning & Zoning staff to review their case and make that determination.

City Manager Whitten further added that Public Works gives the direction on the medium of use.

City Manager Whitten reiterated the existing Code and that the policy of going to the Board of Adjustment has always existed.

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa, asked how 57 Stone and Limerock compared in price and felt that if it was not broken then do not fix it. He stressed the importance of being careful with the material and explained his reasonings for that.

Assistant City Attorney Eick clarified that Council would like this brought back to discuss the materials.

City Manager Whitten suggested that since the materials are their prerogative, staff could get together with Public Works and the Planning & Zoning staff to see if they can expand that list of materials.

Deputy Mayor Goins asked if the $250 fee could be removed and asked what it was for. In response, Ms. Neuterman explained that it was for staff review, legal

review, preparing of staff report for the agenda, and legal advertisements, to go to the Board of Adjustment. Those fees were set by Council and can be changed if Council wished to by ordinance and resolution. Ms. Neuterman further explained the technical review. Deputy Mayor Goins asked if residents could request a waiver of fees and if council would be in favor of a waiver.

Mayor Blake explained that the Board of Adjustment was a quasi-judicial board and that they could supersede Council if needed. Deputy Mayor Goins stated again that there are many citizens getting cited who cannot afford the fees.

It was pointed out that the $250 fee would be for the fencing issue; they were not coming back with this item if they could agree on materials.

Mayor Blake reiterated that the board was a quasi-judicial board and is that way for a reason. It has an attorney and may go to court if needed.

4. Approval of a Lease Agreement w/Family Promise of Brevard, Inc. (21-570). (City Manager)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Koss, to approve the Lease Agreement with Family Promise of Brevard, Inc.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VIII. City Business:

1. Staff recommends the approval on First Reading an Ordinance adopting the proposed solid waste contract/franchise with Waste Management Inc. of Florida to provide residential and commercial solid waste services within the incorporated city limits of the City of Cocoa. Authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Attorney to execute all documentation needed to implement the proposed contract. (21-540). (Public Works Director)

Assistant City Attorney Eick read Ordinance No. 10-2021 into the record, by title only as follows. She advised this was the first reading of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, FLORIDA, APPROVING A SOLID WASTE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COCOA AND WASTE MANAGEMENT OF FLORIDA, INC., ATTACHED HERETO; ESTABLISHING SOLID WASTE SERVICE CHARGES AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 9-37 OF THE CITY OF COCOA CODE OF ORDINANCES;

PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL INCREASES IN SERVICE CHARGERS EQUAL TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR GARBAGE AND TRASH; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Smith advised that this was the first reading to establish the new solid waste contract with Waste Management. He stated the rate was $15.93 which is much lower than anyone in the area. He spoke about Council's prior direction on this item and pointed out some key changes of this was that there would be Wednesday and Saturday service.

Additionally, a GIS page was being worked on so that a citizen can put in their address and know when their pickup times were. Information is also being put out for bulk pick up. The term for this contract will be for seven years and renewals will be negotiated.

Mayor Blake commended staff for their work negotiating this contract. He knows there is an employment issue everywhere but asked that they be mindful that accidents happen and if there could be a local contact person for Waste Management.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve staff's recommendation.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa, asked if there were changes made regarding yard waste pick up. He stated now you have to call and asked if that was a legitimate change.

Mr. Smith explained that the method of placing the waste by the curve has not changed and further explained the containers. He stated that when you exceed three cubic yards (about the size of a picnic table), you have to call that in. He advised that you can call Public Works directly and they would work with Waste Management.

Additionally, Mr. Smith explained the process for the picking up of fencing and noted that the resident needs to call a hauler for that.

In regards to bins, Mr. Smith stated every resident needed three.

Multi-Year Contracts:

None.

IX. Informational Agenda:

1. Cumulative purchase approvals over $35,000 and under $50,000 for period 10/01/2020 to 7/31/2021. (21-541). (Finance Director)

2. Approved change orders to construction contracts that the City Council has authorized the City Manager, by resolution, to approve in excess of the City Manager's spending authority. (21-549). (Finance Director)

3. FY 2021 Budget Adjustment Report. (21-550). (Finance Director)

4. Data showing the relation between the estimated and actual income and expenses to date. (21-551). (Finance Director)

X. Reports:

City Manager Whitten announced that Ms. Senger and Ms. Horst had recently attended a public relations conference and on behalf of the City they were presented with a Golden Image Award for the Citizens Academy. He congratulated them as well as directors and departments for the time and effort they put into this academy.

City Manager Whitten shared that the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference was held last week and Robert Beach, Chief Information Officer, was a moderator at one of the sessions and wanted to acknowledge him for that.

City Manager Whitten advised that in regards to Leon and Jewel Collins Museum, the City was awarded a $30,000 African American Grant and hoped it would be a catalyst to get the museum up and running. He shared that the Grants Administrator, Anthony Hagen, believed that it was Ms. Neuterman's write-up about the story which helped get the grant.

A second grant was also received from the State for $25,000 with a $25,000 match. It is for research and design of the exhibits. He felt with the new fiscal year starting there would be money in hand to start the museum. They are still searching for community partners so he asked that anyone interested in being a part of the museum to reach out to Ms. Senger.

Chief Lamm provided a report on Covid and mentioned there have been 64,323 positive cases with 914 deaths. Over the last week Brevard County has averaged

about 655 new confirmed cases per day. He explained that is roughly 108 for every 100,000 residents or 1 out of 12 residents. Brevard County has a 25% positive test rate and has been listed as more vulnerable than 79% of U.S. counties. In regards to vaccinations, 60% of residents in the County have received one dose of the vaccine and 50% are fully vaccinated. Lastly, he announced that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was fully approved by the FDA on August 23, 2021.

Mayor Blake advised that this is tough and while at the Florida League of Cities Conference some of our own in Brevard County were positive. He noted they all came back and attended the Rosa L. Jones event as well.

Councilmember Dyal spoke about his Town Hall Meeting on August 17th at Lost Lakes. It was a great meeting and lot of questions were answered. The biggest concerns were flooding and development. He further mentioned the Chief's Walk the week before last in his neighborhood and thanked Brevard Kennel Club for the donation of the two dogs. He thanked all for coming.

Deputy Mayor Goins asked all to say a prayer for teachers and students as numbers continue to rise at an unbelievable rate.

He gave kudos to staff and the family of Rosa L. Jones for the mural as it is unbelievable and looks great.

Deputy Mayor Goins spoke to Mr. Smith about Christmas lights and residents putting them up in the Jefferson and Hughlett area. He asked that since they are done downtown if they could also be put up in those areas. Mayor Blake asked him to speak with the City Manager.

He advised that he had spoke with Terry Lane and the Joe Lee Smith pool repairs are about 95% completed. He asked Council to consider free access to the pool. The McLarty pool in Rockledge would be open on Saturdays and the Joe Lee Smith pool would be open on Sunday's. He further informed council that he was working with the Red Cross to bring back swimming lessons and if they had any issues with that. In response, Mayor Blake asked him to run that by the City Manager as well. He felt they all would support it if it meant keeping the kids safe.

Lastly, Deputy Mayor Goins enjoyed the Florida League of Cities Conference and it was nice to network with other cities.

Councilmember Koss appreciated Chief Collier responding to positively to the issues in Cocoa Hills. There are people threatening to move out due to speeding. There will be a community meeting on September 8th at 6 pm where they will speak about this and other issues.

Secondly, she has received three calls in regards to tax statements and millage rate increases. She believes this will be harder for some to vote on than others. There are many increases happening right now and was surprised by the calls.

Councilmember Koss spoke of her appreciation for the Florida League of Cities Conference and thought that the District 3 Town Hall meeting was great and the turnout was fabulous.

Councilmember Hearn agreed that the Town Hall meeting was great as well as the mural presentation for Rosa L. Jones. He thought that the Florida League of Cities Conference was very informative and it was neat to meet with other cities to see the innovation going on. It is always positive when others recognize Cocoa and comment on the good we are doing.

He was able to meet with the Florida Black Caucus of Elected Officials and asked for Council's consent for him to become a member.

* **CONSENSUS AMONG COUNCIL FOR COUNCILMEMBER HEARN TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS.**

Councilmember Hearn pointed out that he was asked to join the Cocoa Youth Football League as a coach and is now coaching 14U. They are doing a great job.

Lastly, he mentioned for transparency that he has been communicating with the management of the stadium about a charity softball game "Guns and Hoses". He thought it was a great idea and wanted other members of council to know they may be receiving calls as well. They would like to see all of Council involved in the event.

Ms. Scott, 635 School Street, Cocoa, spoke about the swimming pool issue and that she loves water aerobics. She has to go to Merritt Island right now and was glad that the Joe Lee Smith pool was almost ready. She further mentioned other physical activities that are good for your health and are needed in the area.

Mayor Blake urged everyone to be aware of their health and to protect yourself at all times. He thanked staff for advertising that people were pretending to be water testers and were breaking into homes. He further thanked staff for the mosquito spraying follow-up and agreed that the FLC Conference was educational and announced that he was reappointed to the Executive Mayoral Board.

In closing, he thanked all for coming tonight.

XI. Adjournment:

* **MOTION by Councilmember Dyal; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn, to adjourn the Regular meeting of August 24, 2021.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Michael C. Blake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carie Shealy, MMC, City Clerk



Rik Jesse, FLORIDA TODAY

A garden grows in Cocoa

Lynda Newell and Jimmie Lee Ross plant tomatoes Saturday at the first planting for the St. Marks and Cocoa Police Community Garden Park on Peachtree Street in Cocoa. The garden is a joint effort involving the Alliance for Neighborhood Restoration, the Cocoa Police Department and St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Organizers hope the garden will reduce blight and play a role in tackling crime. The garden is at the site where Christine Abrams' 1-year-old German shepherd, Ella, starved to death. Abrams, who was recently released from jail, donated the property to St

COCOA

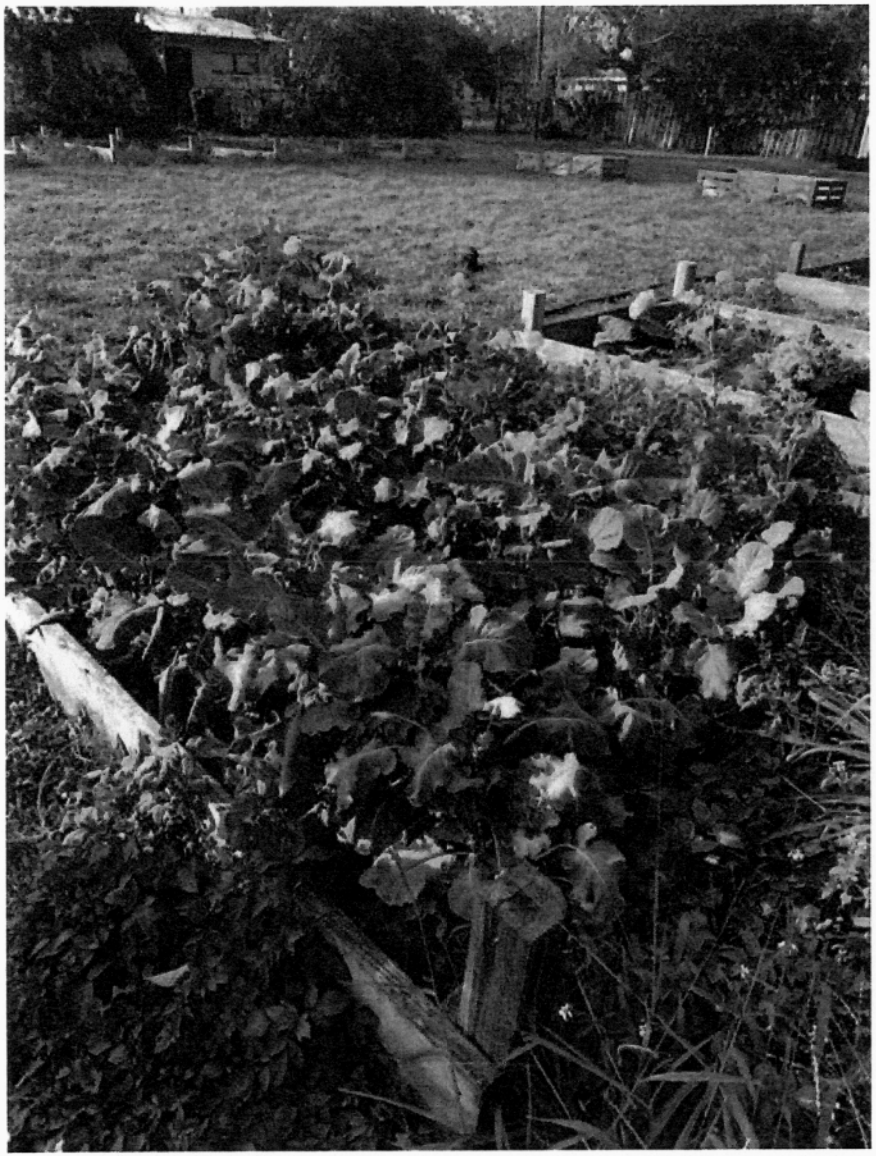
Community garden planting today. Planting at St. Mark's Episcopal Community Garden takes place at 5 p.m. today at 1112 Peachtree St. Call 403-1009.

In 2008, 1112 Peachtree St was donated to St, Mark's Episcocal Church by Christine Abrams after a tragic situation. The Church and the Cocoa Police Department started a garden to enhance the community.

EXHIBIT A: Community Garden Presentation by M. Weiss



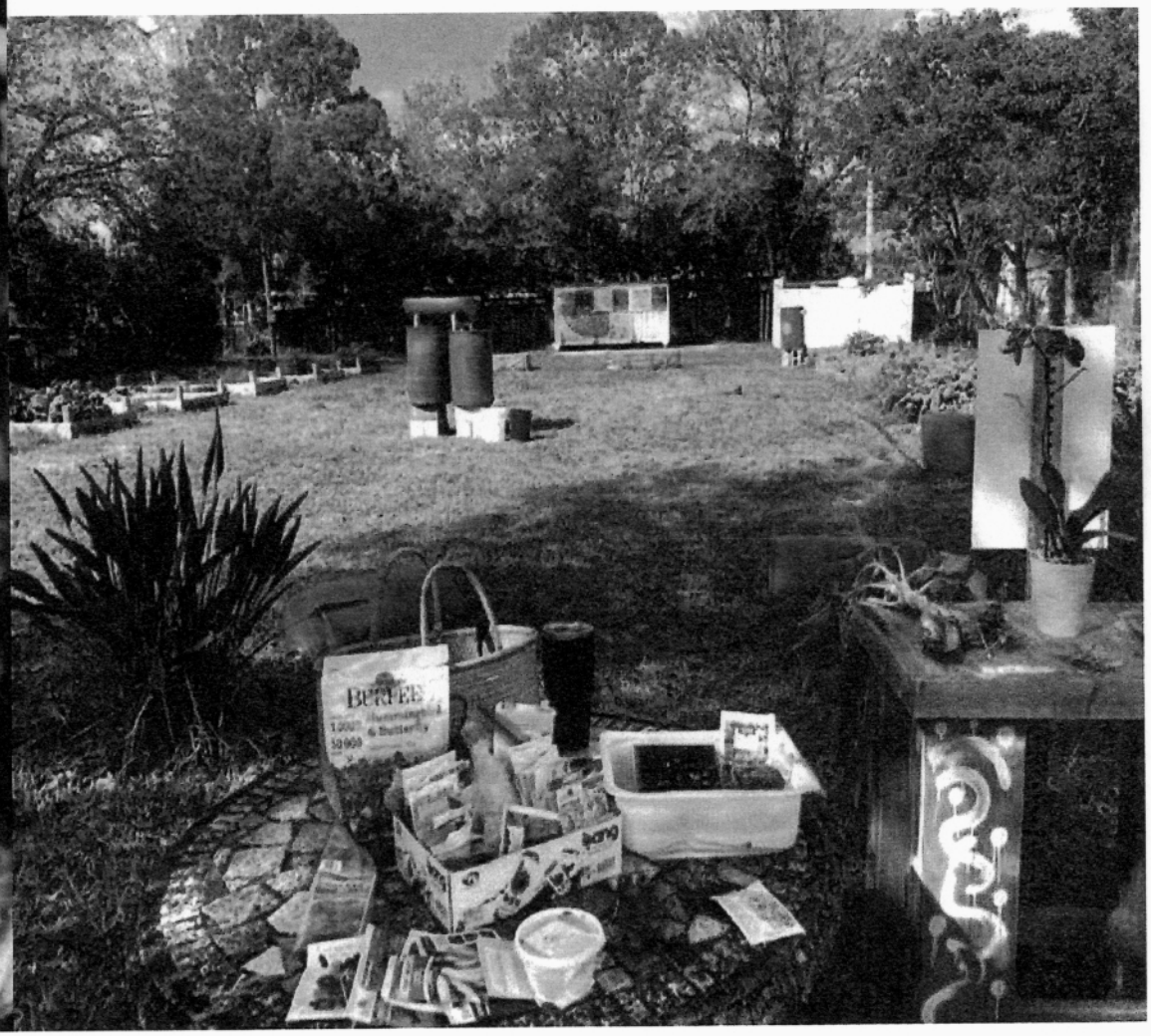
- In 2018, Eagle Scout Dane Layman, after talking with the Sustainability Advisory Board, put in 12 raised beds. The garden grew a beautiful harvest of turnips, cabbage, mustards, broccoli, herbs, peas and more since last fall.



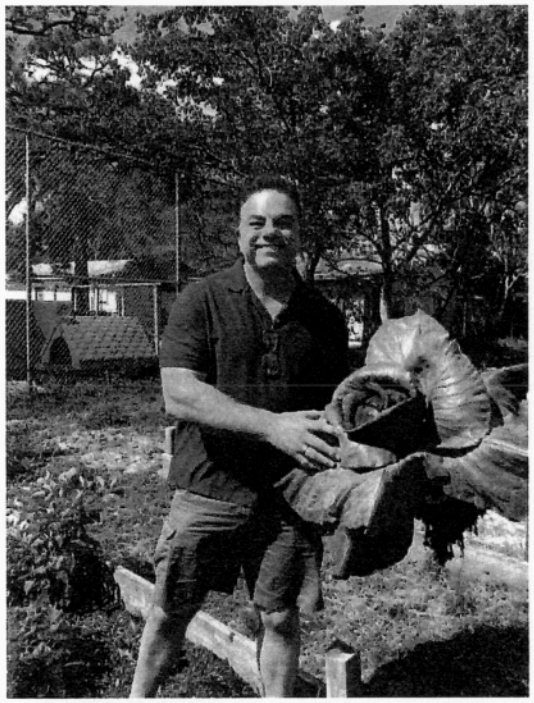

DIAMOND
COMMUNIT

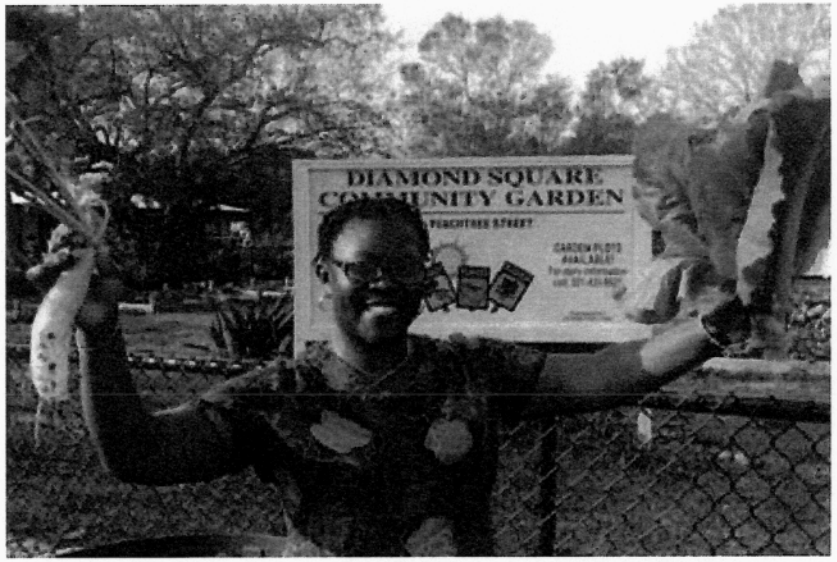


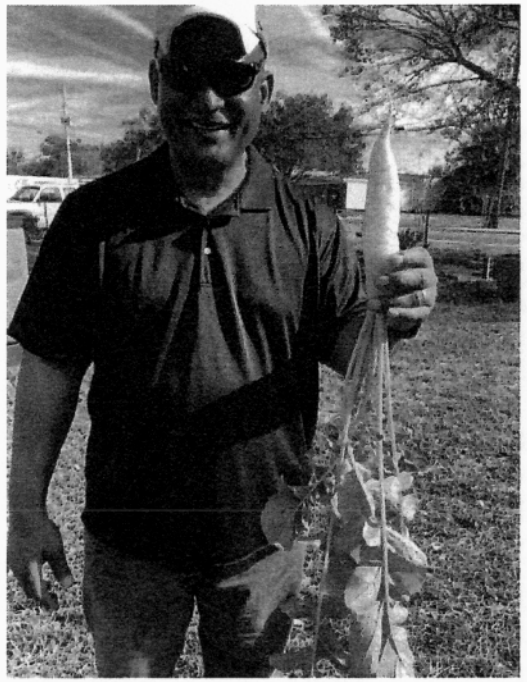
Seed to Harvest Experience s



Benefits of the 1112 Peachtree Community Garden in Cocoa







Edible Education and Good Nutrition

Food Confidence

Agriculture is a leading Florida industry. Agrotourism is growing . Gardens are healthy.

Children should know about food



The next generation

natural gardeners





Added Benefit: The City has free property maintenance





What's Next?

- Members of the City of Cocoa Sustainability Advisory Board, Christ Central, Celebration Tabernacle, and the Rotary Club of Merritt Island have created ready to plant beds for residents, churches, and organizations participating in a seeding and harvesting for a Sharing Table Harvest as part of the outreach of the Cocoa/Rockledge Pastor's Fellowship started in 2010 with Pastor Don from Christ Central and Pastor Beckford from Celebration Tabernacle

How can the City help?

- Potable Water
- 3 year commitment for the garden
- Advertise and take pride in the garden
- Offer suggestions and get involved!

Special Thanks

- Celebration Tabernacle and Christ Central
- Rotary Club of Merritt Island
- Cocoa Police and Fire Department
- City of Cocoa Councilpersons: Rip Dyal, Alex Goins, and Lorraine Koss
- City of Cocoa City Manager Stockton Whitten and Charlene Neuterman
- College Greens Residents who contributed



EXHIBIT B: City of Cocoa Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements Presentation

City of Cocoa Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements

August 24th, 2021

Recent District 4 Improvements

Provost Park West – Field Lighting



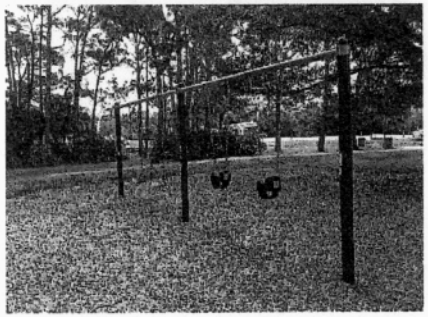
COCOA FLORIDA

Recent District 4 Improvements

New Playgrounds

Junny Rios Martinez Park



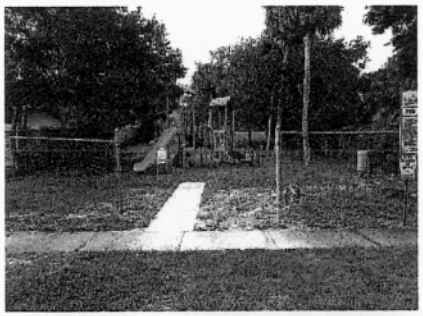


Carl E. Anderson Park





Manor Park

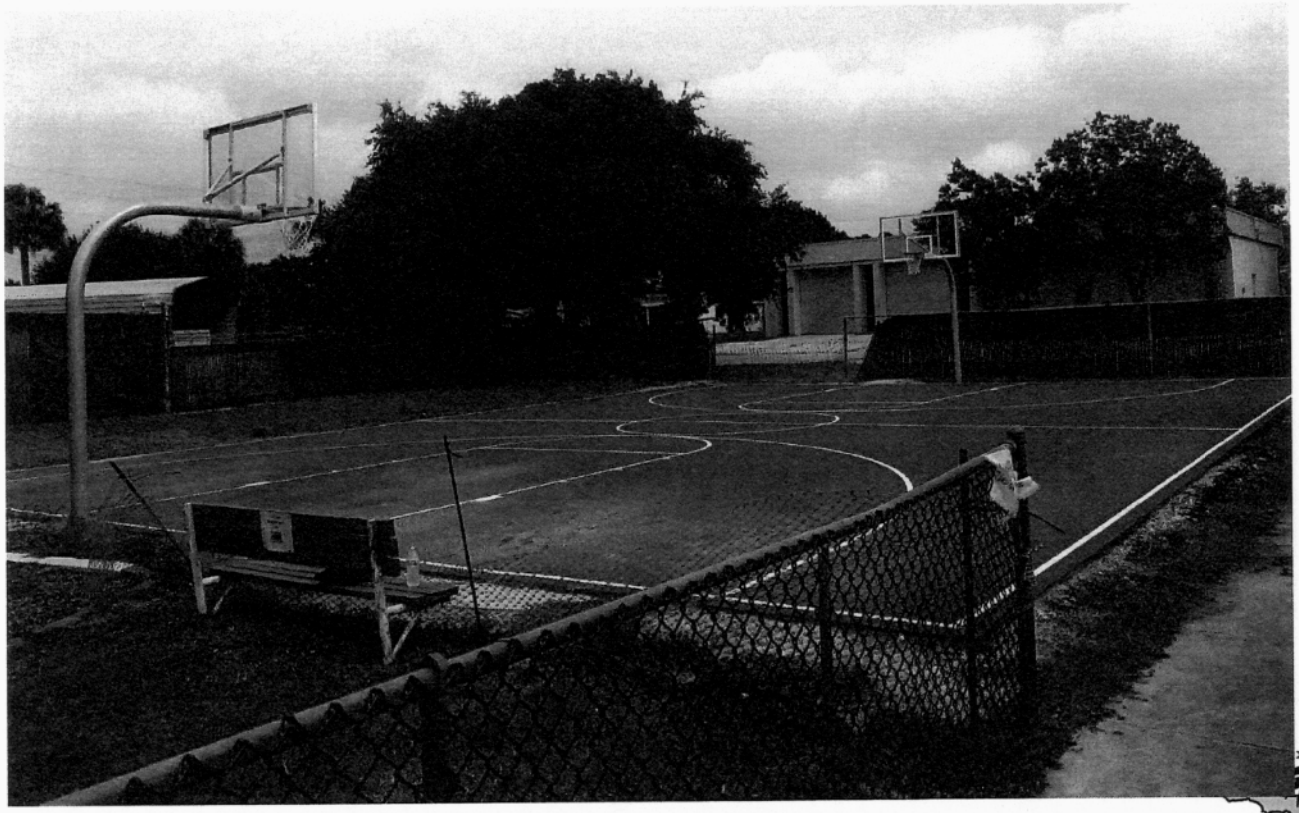




COCOA FLORIDA

Recent District 4 Improvements

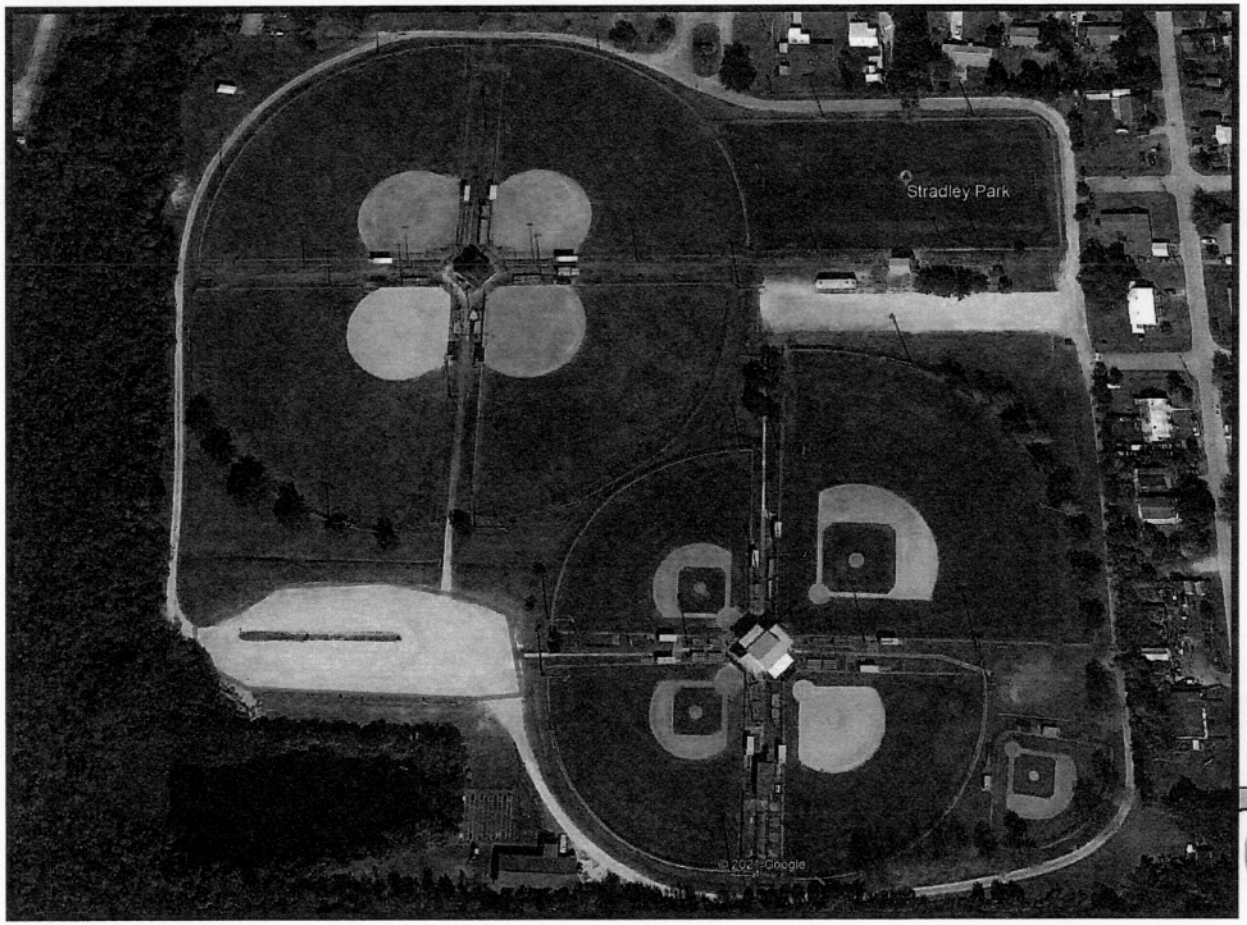
- Travis Park Community Center Half to Full Court Conversion



COCOA FLORIDA

Proposed District 4 Improvements

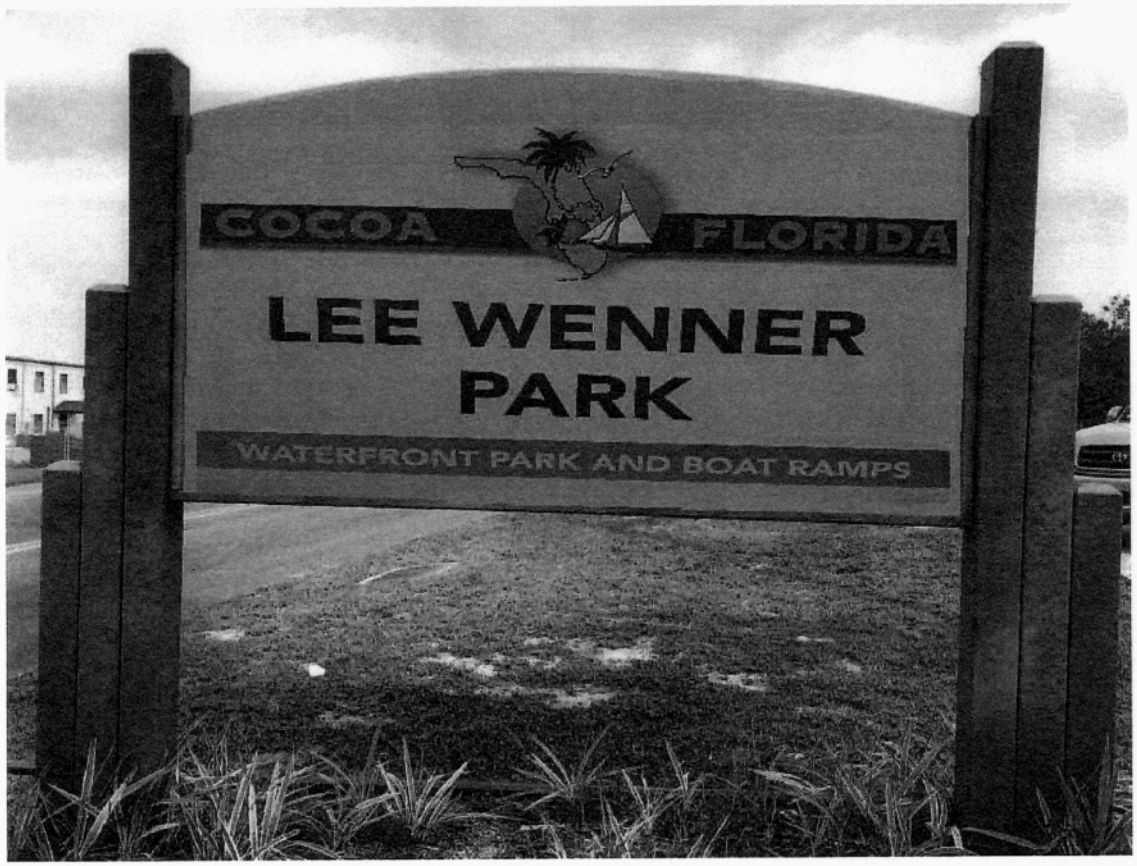
- Proposed Paving of the Don "Mo" Stradley Park parking lot (pending funding)



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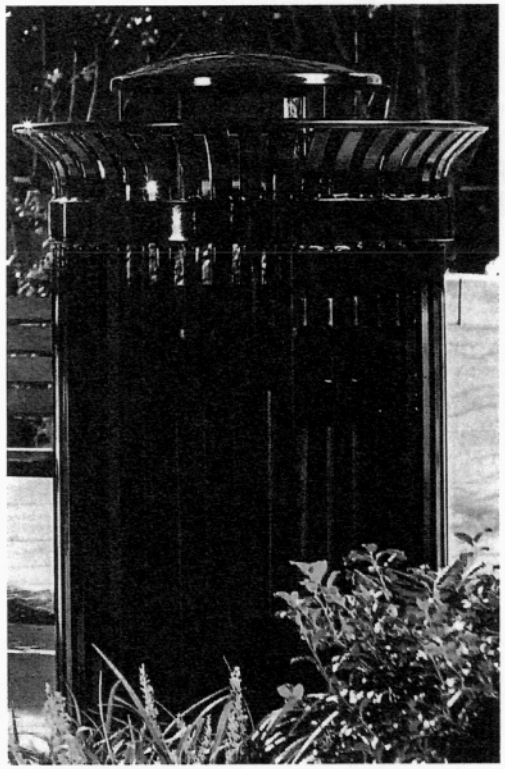
City Funded Improvements

- New Double-Sided Monument Signs with recycled plastic.

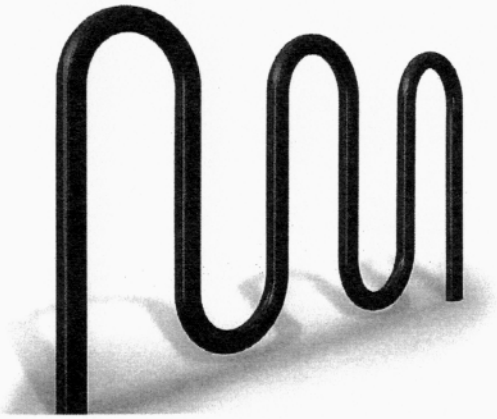


City Funded Improvements

- Matching Victor Stanley Benches, Trash Receptacles, and Bike Racks.







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City Funded Improvements

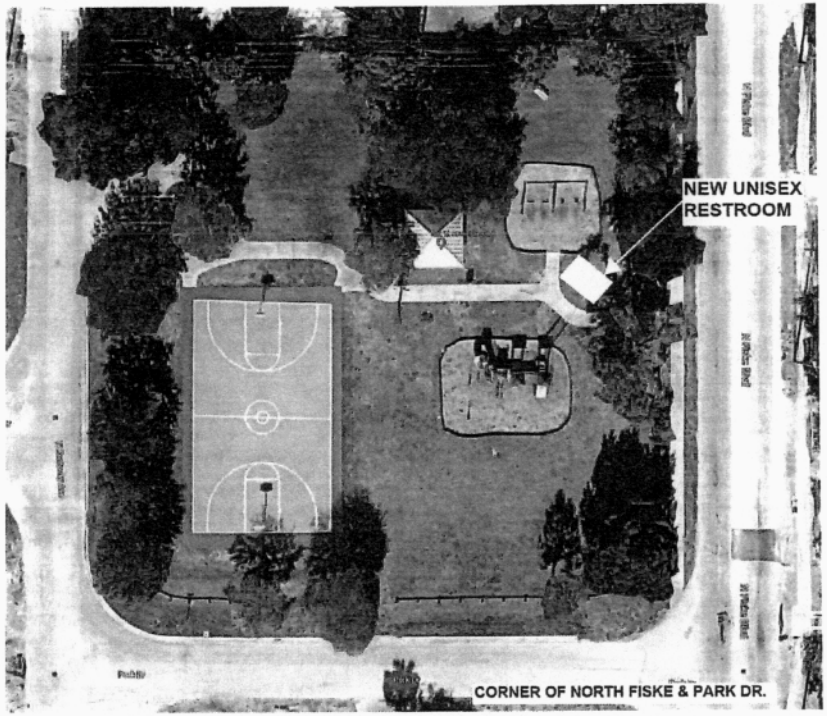
- New low maintenance water fountains and picnic tables.





COCOA
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Carl E. Anderson Park – Restroom



RZK Architects RZK, Inc.
600 FLORIDA AVENUE
SUITE 201
COCOA, FL 32922
T 321.631.8939
F 321.639.0372
www.ARCHITECTRZK.com
JOHN C. ZWICK, AR0005027

ANDERSON PARK

PROJECT ADDRESS

CONCEPT AERIAL PLAN

DATE 02-5-2021
JOB NO. 2021.21
DRAWN BY ZWICK
CHECKED BY

CP-1.0

RENDERED TO PRINT IN COLOR

COCOA FLORIDA

Gilmore Community Park – Restroom



PZK
Architects PZK, Inc.
655 FLORIDA AVENUE
SUITE 201
COCOA, FL 32922
T 321.631.0539
F 321.639.6572
www.ARCHITECTSPZK.com
JOHN C. ZWICK, AR0008527

SUBMITTED

PROJECT ADDRESS

DRAWING TITLE

DATE

JOB NO.

DRAWN BY

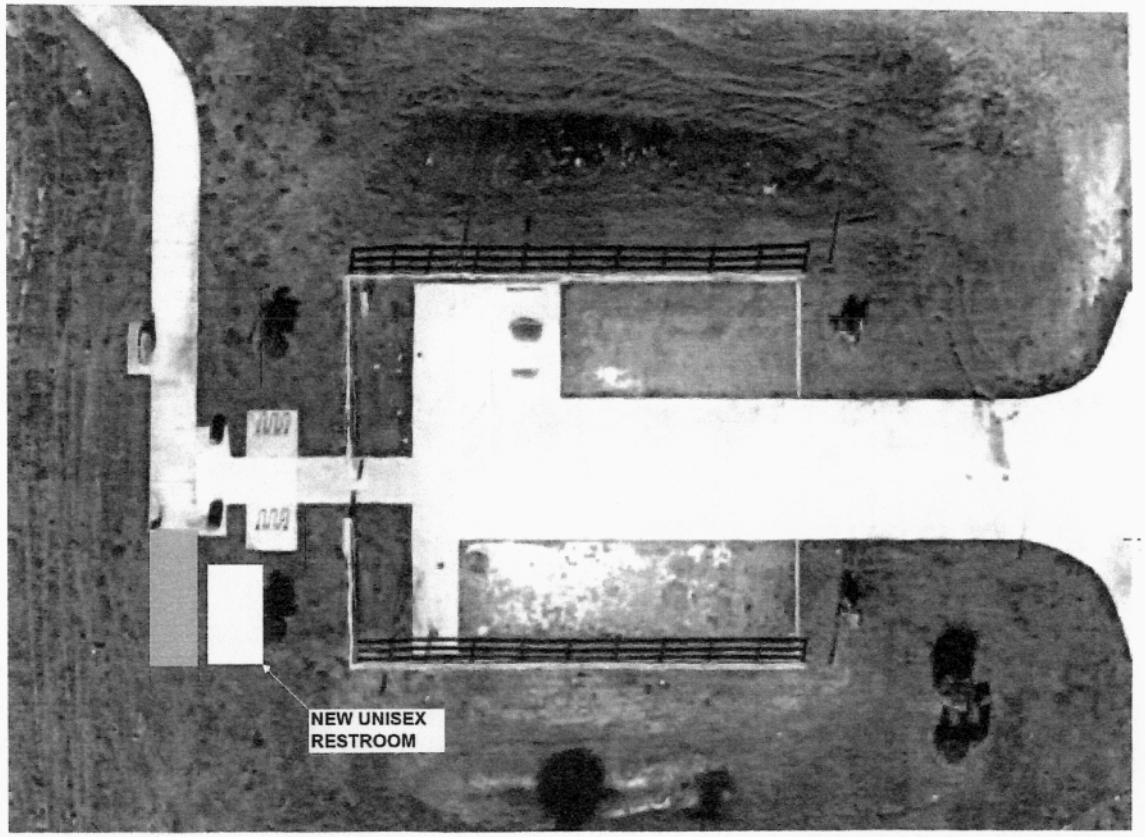
CHECKED BY

DRAWING NO.

REVISED TO PRINT IN COLOR

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FLORIDA

Bracco Pond Park – Restroom



PZK
Architects PZK, Inc.
666 FLORIDA AVENUE
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F 321.639.6872
www.ARCHITECTPZK.com
JOHN C. ZWICH, AR0008027

BRACCO
POND
PARK

PROJECT ADDRESS

CONCEPT
AERIAL
PLAN

DATE	07.06.2021
JOB NO.	2021.22
DRAWN BY	ZWICH
CHECKED BY	ZWICH

CP-1.0

DESIGNED TO PRINT IN COLOR

COCOA
FLORIDA

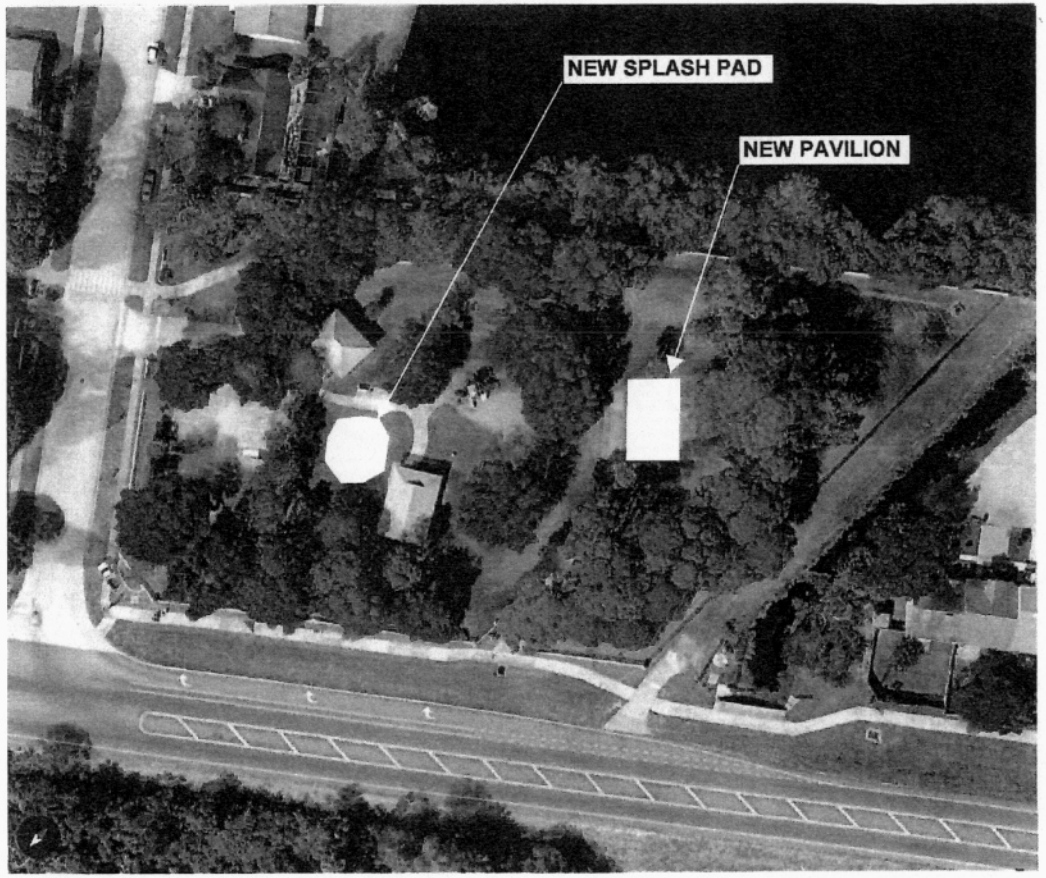
Bracco Pond Park – Restroom

Council Action:

- Staff recommends that the Bracco Pond Park Restroom be eliminated due to available funding.
- Staff recommends the incorporation of 8-12 fitness stations around the walking path.
- Staff recommends the remaining balance of funds to be utilized as contingency where needed for the other improvements projects.

COCOA FLORIDA

Junny Rios Martinez Park – New Splash Pad & Pavilion



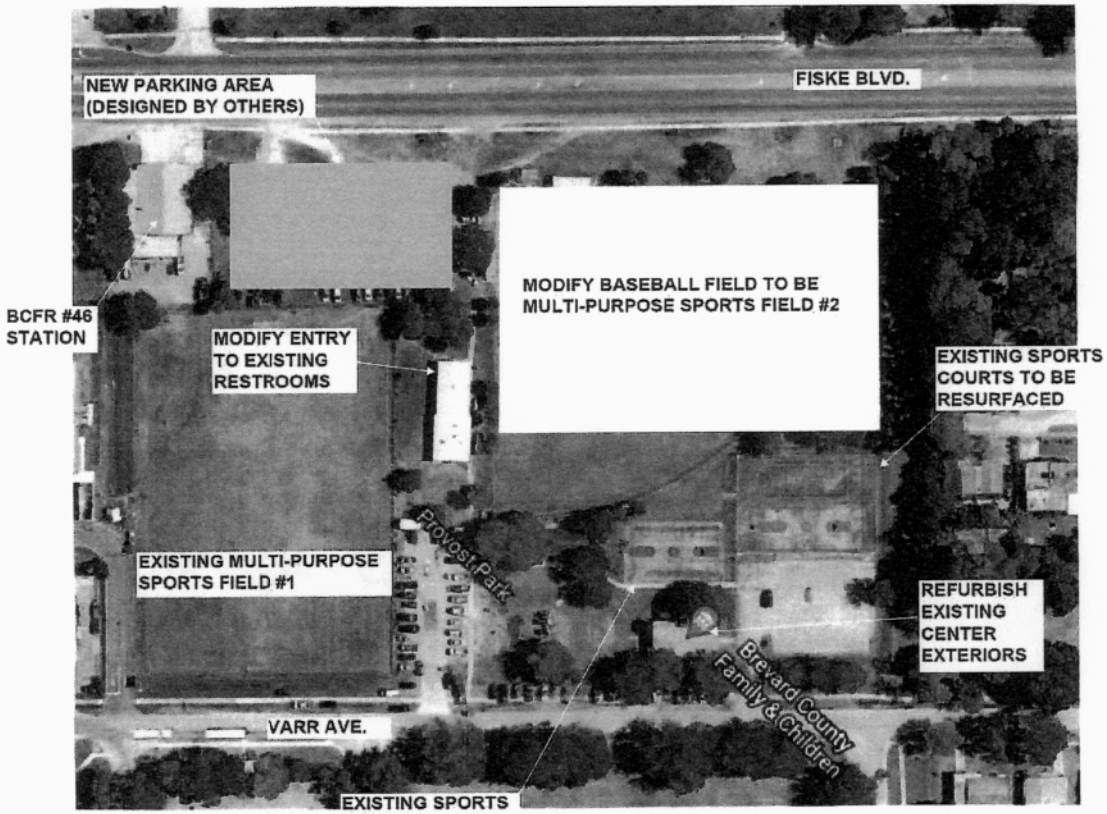
RZK Architects RZK, Inc.
500 FLORIDA AVENUE
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JOHN C. ZWICK, AR0008017

PROJECT ADDRESS

DESIGNED TO PRINT IN COLOR

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Provost Park Improvements



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COCOA, FL 32922
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F 321.639.6672
www.ARCHITECTSPZK.com
JOHN C. ZINCK, AR0009527

PROVOST
PARK

AERIAL
CONCEPT
PLAN

01.05.2021
2021.25
ZINCK
ZINCK

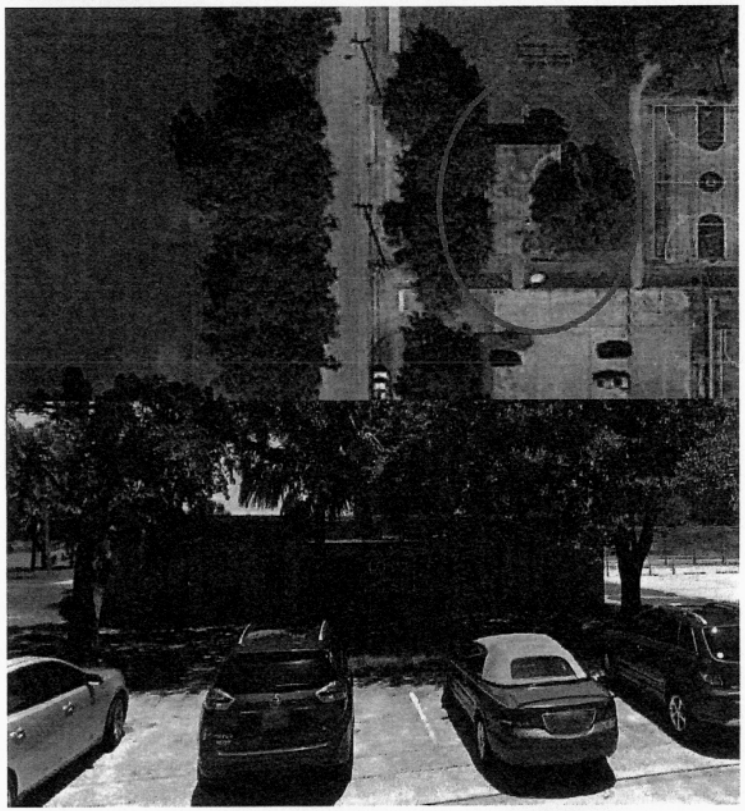
CP-1.0

COCOA
FLORIDA

Provost Park Improvements

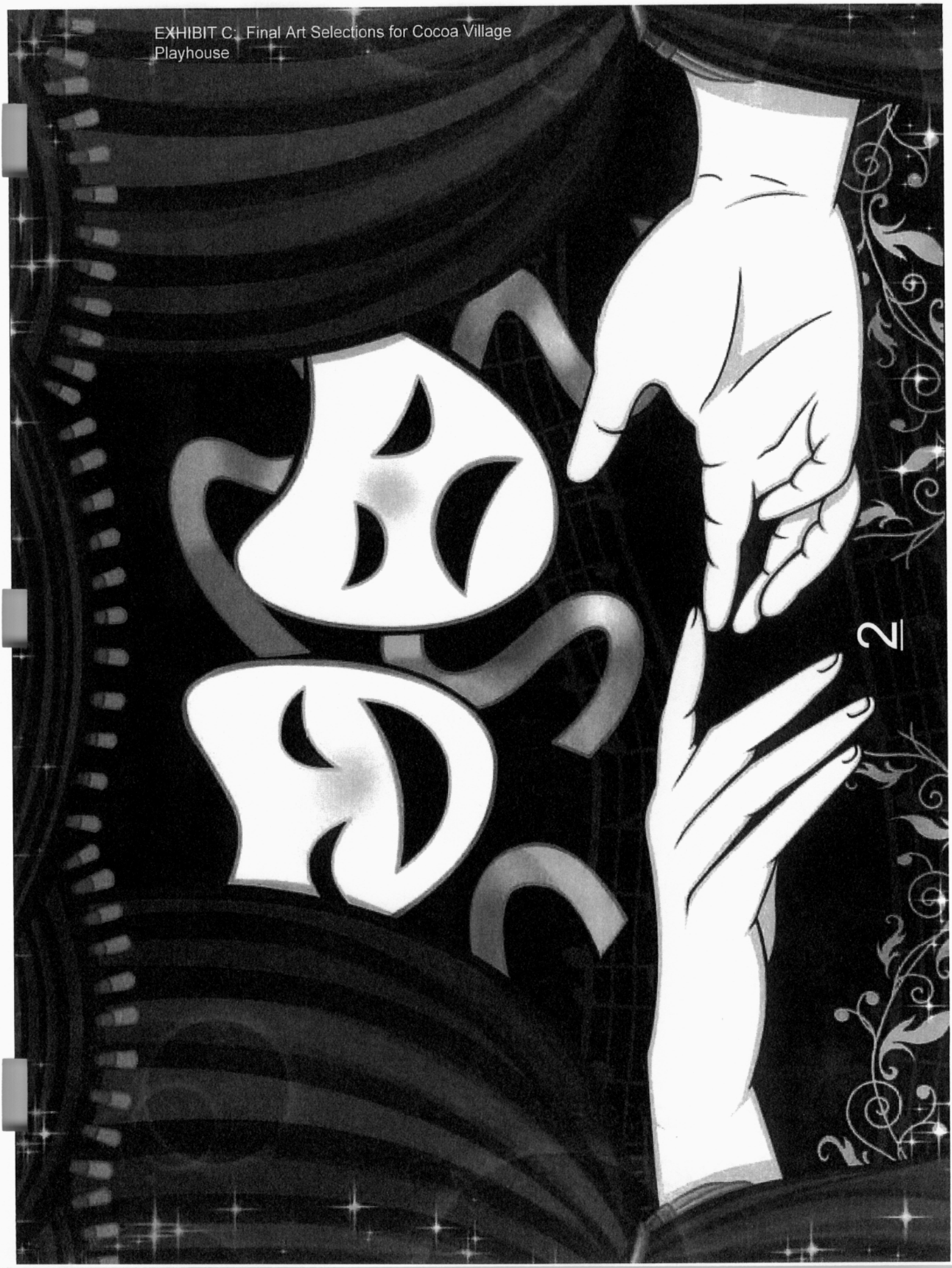
Police Dept. Provost Annex:

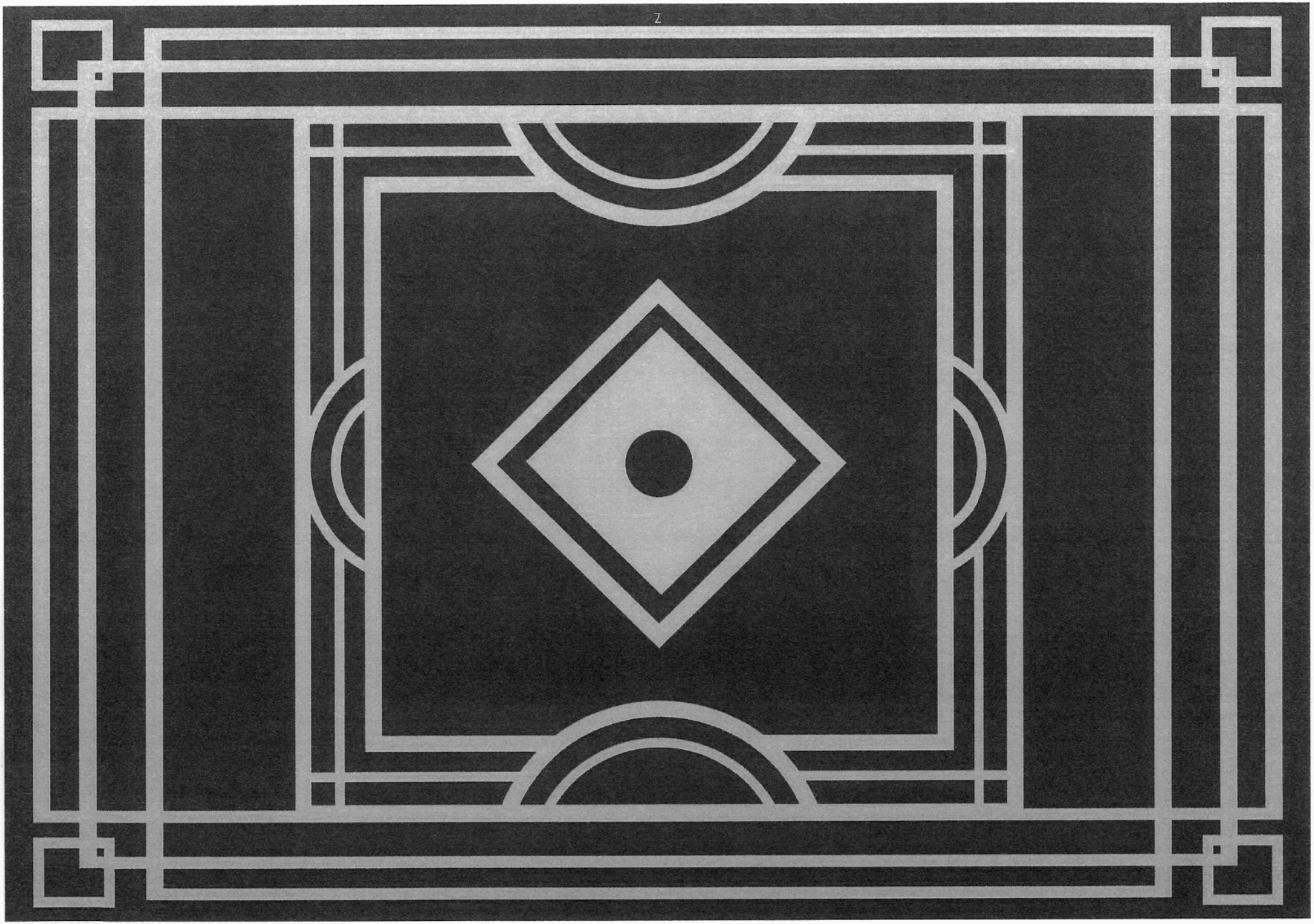
- Office space for Code Enforcement, CRU, VA.
- Provides a police presence in the park and enhances community relations.
- Overnight officers could use for reports or breaks.
- $60,000 allocation for this building will be utilized to renovate the building for PD's operational needs.
- Staff is seeking council approval for the Police Department to occupy this building.



COCOA FLORIDA

EXHIBIT C: Final Art Selections for Cocoa Village Playhouse

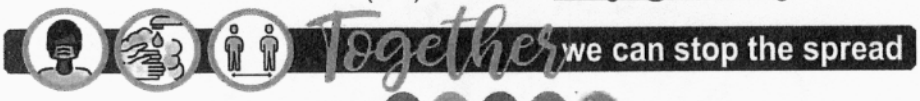




From: Samantha Senger
To: Carie Shealy
Subject: RE: Statement from Dr. Hawkins-Smith
Date: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:34:06 AM
Attachments: image009.png
image016.png

If the council votes on the artwork that is based on the art deco style of the Playhouse, the artists will provide an image to be placed in the center that reflects either the drama masks or the performing arts. Also, the colors will be the exact specified colors of the interior of the Playhouse which is the metallic gold and burgundy. If this design is chosen, it is my belief that it is a design that can be used throughout the village by changing the interior image to reflect the desired theme based on where the artwork is placed.

Samantha Senger, APR, CPRC, APIO
Assistant to the City Manager and
Public Information Officer
65 Stone St., Cocoa, FL 32922
(321) 433-8685 I ssenger@cocoafl.org



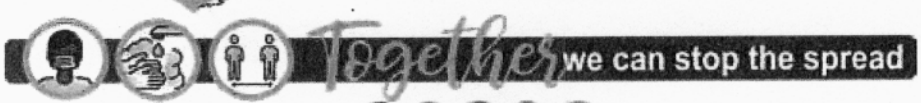
Stay Connected: www.CocoaFL.org

From: Carie Shealy <cshealy@cocoafl.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:05 AM
To: Samantha Senger <ssenger@cocoafl.org>
Subject: Statement from Dr. Hawkins-Smith

Hi Sam,
I am working on the minutes from the last meeting. Can you forward me the statement from Stacy that you read into the record please?

Thanks!

Carie E. Shealy, MMC, MAA
City Clerk
65 Stone St., Cocoa, FL 32922
(321) 433-8484 I cshealy@cocoafl.org



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