

Pasco County

Watershed Meeting for Flood Impacted Areas

Double Hammock Watershed

May 10, 2017 – Elderly Nutrition Building, 8600 Galen Wilson Blvd., Port Richey, Pasco County

The following is a summary of the Double Hammock Watershed meeting held on May 10, 2017.

Introductions, Meeting Purpose and Background

Mr. Don Rosenthal (Pasco County Assistant County Administrator for Development Services) welcomed the group. Self-introductions were provided by Ms. Michele Baker (Pasco County Administrator - outgoing), Mr. Dan Biles (Pasco County Administrator - incoming) and staff attending for Pasco County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

The purpose of this Watershed Task Force meeting is to increase knowledge of the Double Hammock Watershed and to allow County staff to work together with residents to improve stormwater management systems within the watershed. The County is seeking the involvement of local residents in the development of potential solutions. The results of this effort will provide recommendations to the County Administrator for potential projects/solutions.

Comments, Questions and Discussions

A summary of discussions, noted issues, and responses, are provided in this meeting summary. The contents of this summary do not represent direct quotes and may or may not represent the group's view as a whole.

PowerPoint Presentation and General Discussion

A PowerPoint presentation was presented to attendees by Ms. Joella Schultz (Stormwater Management). The presentation provided an update of recent stormwater activities, information on project funding and next steps.

The Double Hammock Watershed covers approximately 13 square miles and includes a coastal ridge. Areas known to be impacted by flooding include Timber Oaks; Ironbark/Greybirch Ponds; Jasmine Lakes Estates (Outfall System); Pineapple Lane; Gulf Highlands at US 19; and Ranch Road.

A graphic showing the rainfall amounts and rainfall intensity distributions recorded by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) during Hurricane Hermine was presented. The results of the damage assessment following Hurricane Hermine was also presented. There were no areas of major damage noted within the Double Hammock Watershed. The County tracked calls received regarding damage

during Hurricane Hermine and that valuable information was used for damage assessments.

Recently completed activities include the following:

- Submission of documents to the SWFWMD to obtain cooperative funding for the Ironbark Pond Flood Abatement project;
- Hard pipe installation which will be used for emergency pumping operations at the Ironbark/Greybirch ponds;
- Submission of documents to the Tampa Bay Estuary Program to obtain funding for the Double Hammock Outfall Improvement project;
- Selection of a contractor for the completed Timber Oaks Project design; and,
- Pipe replacement projects at Rottingham Road, Casuarina Drive, and Laurel Oak Court.

The County has several ongoing projects within the Double Hammock Watershed. The construction of the Timber Oaks Golf Course Regional ponds is underway with completion anticipated in approximately 2 years. The County has also submitted documents to SWFWMD to obtain cooperative funding for projects at Ironbark and Greybirch.

The draft floodplains have been developed for the Double Hammock Watershed Management Plan and a public meeting will be scheduled in late June by the SWFWMD. Following the public meeting, the updated floodplain maps will go to the SWFWMD Governing Board for final approval. The maps will be used for the evaluation of the Level of Service and an analysis of Best Management Practices (BMP).

The following are questions or general discussion that occurred following the presentation.

- *What is SWFWMD?*
SWFWMD stands for the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The SWFWMD oversees projects and provides co-funding for projects that provide benefits to the community. Pasco County works with the SWFWMD to obtain funding for County projects which lessens the burden of cost to the County and ultimately to residents.
- *Has the Ironbark pond project been designed yet?*
A conceptual design has been completed. Currently stormwater gravity flows to the old pond area to be pumped out when stormwater in the surrounding area recedes and those areas can accept the stormwater flows. The current piping, which was recently installed, is only temporary.

- *Will the new design have pumps as well?*
No, the new conceptual design uses pipes to convey flows by gravity. The project will add additional stormwater storage and County will reach out to residents during the design phase for the Ironbark project.
- *What is the schedule for future pipe replacements?*
As a result of the additional stormwater funding approved by the Board of County Commissioners, the County will be adding additional pipe crews in October of this year. The additional crews will allow the County to expedite the pipe replacement schedule.
- A resident complimented the work crew that had been completing pipe replacements in the area.
- A dead tree was noted adjacent to a utility line and an uprooted tree was noted by the pond. Mike Garrett (Pasco County Public Works Director) will follow-up to have the dead trees removed.
- *What is the status of projects within Jasmine Lakes Estates?*
Potential projects within Jasmine Lakes Estates will be reviewed as part of the BMP process. Funding will need to be secured for any identified BMP projects.
- Resident noted that the Jasmine Lakes Estates issue noted as Item #7 on the map is still an issue. The canal the runs north/south from Bougenville Drive to Jasmine Boulevard between Hibiscus Drive and Oleander Drive is blocked with debris and needs to be cleaned. Water overflows on to Oleander Drive. Mr. Zawalich will e-mail photos to Donald Carey (Pasco County Stormwater).

County noted that this area within Jasmine Lakes Estates will be evaluated as part of the current BMP.

- Resident at 7127 Gulf Islands Drive noted that the pipe under the road to the west of his home appears to be blocked. The pipe is supposed to drain to the north into Cypress Preserve. Joella Schultz (Pasco County Stormwater) will follow-up.

The County will research issues noted during this meeting and will provide updates via the County's website and e-mail. Future watershed meetings are anticipated to be held at six month intervals.