



Interoffice Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM

August 26, 2022

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Jon V. Weiss, P.E., Director
Planning, Environmental, and Development
Services Department

CONTACT PERSON: David D. Jones, P.E., CEP, Manager
Environmental Protection Division
407-836-1406

SUBJECT: September 13, 2022 – Work Session
Shingle Creek Basin Overview

On April 12, 2022, Commissioner Wilson requested a work session on the Shingle Creek Drainage Basin in an effort to better understand how the County can ensure clean water, protect against inland flooding, and promote the area as a site for eco-tourism. More specifically, she requested that the work session cover the history of the area, land ownership, potential protection measures, and planned drainage protocol. Furthermore, she asked that the work session review potential development impacts on natural resources from east of International Drive to Shingle Creek, including water quality and quantity.

Upon receipt of the request, Mayor Demings directed staff to do the requested research and prepare a presentation for the Board, subject to the Board's availability. At this work session, staff will present an overview of the requested items as well as the County's current regulatory requirements for new development within the basin. In addition, the work session will cover challenges and opportunities, including potential future actions that could be considered to help strengthen protections for the basin.

This item is for informational purposes only; no action is required.

DDJ/JVW: jk

Attachment



Date: April 12, 2022

To: Mayor Jerry Demings and Board of County Commissioners

From: Commissioner Nicole Wilson, District 1

Address: 201 S. Rosalind Ave Orlando Florida 32801

Subject: Protections of Shingle Creek Basin

Good afternoon,

I am writing to request a Work Session intended to protect the Shingle Creek Basin. The Shingle Creek Basin includes the Big Sand Lake Chain and Lakes Holden, Tyler, Ellenor, Catherine, Bryan and more between Orange County Commission Districts 1, 3, and 6. According to the South Florida Water Management District, the "Shingle Creek Management Area is the last remaining natural area of its size in [this area]...Shingle Creek...forms the headwaters of the Everglades." (South Florida Water Management District). As such, the protection of this basin should be of interest to all Districts and all Floridians. Parts of Shingle Creek are currently owned by South Florida Water Management District as mitigation for previous infrastructure projects (South Florida Water Management District) while others are privately held. Furthermore, Florida Statutes 373.4592 (5)(b) states "the Legislature declares that it is necessary for the public health and welfare that the Everglades water and water-related resources be conserved and protected."


In 2007, there was an effort to promote this area as a site for eco-tourism (Orlando Sentinel, 2007). Currently, there is a portion of Shingle Creek which has bike trails adjacent to Hunter's Creek residential area, but no public eco-tourism attraction in the section north of the Orange-Osceola Line. Additionally, the Shingle Creek Basin is the site of valuable mitigation banking (FDEP).

As the line for development pushes eastward from International Drive, we must consider the utility of Shingle Creek as a drainage basin for the aforementioned lakes, the ecological value of water quality maintenance for Florida as a state, as well as the economic impacts of access to necessary natural resources. In efforts to diversify our tourism industry, ensure clean water, and protect against inland flooding, we should identify our valuable basins and tools to protect them.

In this Work Session, I would like to review the history of this area, land ownership, potential protections measures, and planned drainage protocol. The ideal date for this Work Session would be in May or June.

Requested action: A Work Session to review impacts of eastward development to Shingle Creek on water quality, water quantity, how to protect this area, and drainage.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Nicole Wilson 
Orange County Commission District 1

CC: Byron Brooks, Jon Weiss, David Jones, Jeff Benavides, Alberto Vargas, Jeffrey Newton, Joel Prinsell, Renzo Nastazi, Nicolas Thalmueller



References

Shingle Creek. sfwmd.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved March 31, 2022, from <https://www.sfwmd.gov/recreation-site/shingle-creek>

Kelly, K. (2007, September 18). *Hope floats on Shingle Creek*. Orlando Sentinel. Retrieved March 31, 2022, from <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/os-xpm-2007-09-18-shinglecreek18-story.html>

Mitigation and mitigation banking. Florida Department of Environmental Protection. (n.d.). Retrieved March 31, 2022, from <https://floridadep.gov/water/submerged-lands-environmental-resources-coordination/content/mitigation-and-mitigation-banking>

Stormwater Division, Shingle Creek Drainage Basin Master Stormwater Management Study (1997). Retrieved from https://www.orange.wateratlas.usf.edu/upload/documents/SC01_Shingle-CreekDrngBsinMSMS-web.pdf.

