



Town Council Agenda Report

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE DAVIE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S REQUEST FOR FOUR CANARY ISLAND DATE PALM TREES AT THE DAVIE ROAD BRIDGE QUADRANTS

REPORT IN BRIEF:

To support the Davie CRA's application for 4 Canary Island Date Palm trees at the Davie Road Bridge quadrants of the C-11 Canal

DISCUSSION:

About 1 1/2 years ago the Davie CRA, through the Town, submitted an application to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to install four Canary Island Date Palms for the Davie Road bridge over the C-11 Canal. The CRA believes that these trees would provide a grand entranceway to our "new" Downtown area given the street improvements presently underway. We realized that the trees are not native to Florida, but have provided substantial evidence to SFWMD that the trees hold up well in strong winds and have a tremendous root balls to help stabilize them. It should be noted that the SFWMD have guidelines for approving non-native trees. Also, it should be noted that the FDOT's Griffin Road Project removed approximately 30 trees at the Davie Road bridge and the absence of trees would look quite barren.

Since our initial submittal and numerous meetings, the SFWMD staff has not approved these trees. Town/CRA staff has agreed not to install the trees during hurricane season, to provide bracing for such trees, to remove such trees for a flood emergency, and other items. SFWMD staff has insisted that they wish to include a mitigation plan into the approval of the four trees. Such a plan would require that the exotic trees, particularly the Australian pines, along the north side of the C-11 Canal, should be removed between Davie Road and the bridge near SW 76th Avenue. However, this mitigation plan will require extensive coordination in terms and phasing of the trees to be removed, replacement trees, and who is to pay the costs of removal, replacement and installation. This is a very sensitive area of the Town given the usage on this linear park and the tremendous loss of shade trees along the Canal as a result of Griffin Road Project. The CRA/Town staff have argued that this is a separate project which should not be connected to our application for the Canary Island Date Palms. However, SFWMD staff have been adamant that approval of such trees should be contingent upon a mitigation plan.

Based upon the fact that there does not appear to be an immediate resolution with SFWMD staff, Town staff is recommending that the Town Council support the CRA's application of the four Canary Island Date Palm trees at the Davie Road bridge quadrants and that a such approval not be tied to a mitigation plan. A mitigation plan with SFWMD can be jointly developed as a continuing issue. The CRA Board agreed these issues should be considered separately and that the SFWMD should approve the four Canary Island Date Palm trees. The CRA plans to attend the SFWMD Governing Board on September 9th and requests Town Council support by approving the attached resolution.

CONCURRENCES: The CRA Board adopted a motion on 8/16/99 to request that the SFWMD remove the requirement of a mitigation plan from our application for the four trees.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Is appropriation required? not at this time Funding appropriated? not applicable

Additional Comments: The CRA will pay for the Canary Island Date Palms. The funding for any future mitigation plan along the C-11 canal will need to be determined once worked out with SFWMD.

RECOMMENDATION(S): Motion to approve resolution supporting the CRA's request for 4 Canary Island Date Palm trees at the Davie Road Bridge quadrants.

Attachment(s): Resolution

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE DAVIE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S REQUEST FOR FOUR CANARY ISLAND DATE PALM TREES AT THE DAVIE ROAD BRIDGE QUADRANTS

WHEREAS, the Davie Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) recognizes the importance of an entranceway feature into the Downtown area; and

WHEREAS, the CRA recommends the planting of four Canary Island Date Palms at the Davie Road Bridge quadrants of the C-11 Canal to create the entry feature; and

WHEREAS, these planting locations are located in/adjacent to the canal right of way of the South Florida Water Management District; and

WHEREAS, the Town/CRA has submitted a request to the SFWMD to permit these trees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA.

SECTION 1. The Town Council of the Town of Davie supports the CRA's application for four Canary Island Date Palms as a signature entranceway feature at the Davie Road Bridge quadrants of the C-11 Canal.

SECTION 2. As the Town recognizes the importance of good flood management practices as well as attractive park amenities, the Town agrees to jointly develop with the SFWMD a mitigation plan for the north side of the C-11 Canal between Davie Road and the SW 76th Avenue bridge to attain these goals. The phasing of tree removal, creation of a landscape plan, and tree replacement, as well as the costs of each, will need to be worked out in an agreement between the Town and SFWMD.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999.