

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: June 7, 2011 (X) Consent () Regular
() Ordinance () Public Hearing

Department

Submitted By: Environmental Resources Management

Submitted For: Environmental Resources Management

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: Memorial Bench Donation process.

Summary: The Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) proposes to initiate a Memorial Bench Donation process as an element of the Natural Areas Program. Individuals, families, and groups could memorialize a loved one, honor an individual or group, or commemorate a special event by making a donation to the Natural Areas Fund for the installation of a memorial bench with a commemorative plaque attached on a natural area managed by ERM. A donation of \$1,500 will cover the estimated cost for fabrication of the bench and plaque and installation of the bench. Memorial benches will provide additional amenities on natural areas which otherwise would not have been funded. The donation amount will be subject to change as material and labor costs change. Donations would cover the cost of fabrication and installation only and would not provide additional revenue to the Natural Areas Program. Countywide (SF)

Background and Justification: ERM currently manages 35 natural areas, totaling over 31,000 acres. Several individuals have approached ERM with a request to honor a deceased member of their family through the donation of a memorial bench. Memorial benches would provide additional amenities on the natural areas and along multi-use trails that connect those sites. Opportunities for bench donations would be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. A donor could request placement of a bench on a particular natural area, but the site and the specific location of the bench on the site will be determined by ERM staff based on site-specific conditions and the number of benches already present on the site.

The donation process would be initiated by the donor through the submission directly to ERM of a completed agreement for donation and application form along with the appropriate payment to the Natural Areas Fund. The bench would be an attractive, durable cedar-colored 6' recycled plastic bench with a cast bronze 10" x 3" memorial plaque attached with a heading and text selected by the donor. ERM staff would approve the wording on the plaque and the location for the bench prior to ordering the bench and plaque. The bench would be installed directly into the ground within three months of the donation date and the donor would be informed that the bench is ready for public use. The agreement for donation specifies that the County will not be responsible for replacement of the bench in the event of loss due to vandalism or acts of God such as storms, flooding, wildfire, etc. or for replacement of the plaque if it is damaged or lost. The County reserves the right to relocate the bench if necessary for safety, environmental, or land management reasons. If the bench is relocated, the donor will be informed of the new location of the bench.

Attachments:

1. Agreement for Donation
2. Example of Bench with Plaque

Recommended by: Richard E. Wolchok

Department Director

5/3/11
Date

Approved by: [Signature]

County Administrator

5/8/11
Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind (_____)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes _____ No _____
 Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ Object _____

Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ Object _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact

* There is no fiscal impact associated with this item. Funds for the fabrication of the benches and plaques and the installation of the benches by existing ERM staff will be provided through contributions by the donors to the Palm Beach County Natural Areas Fund.

C. Department Fiscal Review: *JF*

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and /or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:
 Fiscal impact is indeterminable at this time as this would be a new program but net fiscal impact will be zero.

 OFMB *[Signature]* 5/11/11
5/11
5/10/11

 Contract Development and Control *[Signature]* 5/13/11
5/12/11

B. Legal Sufficiency:

 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director



**MEMORIAL BENCH DONATION AGREEMENT
PALM BEACH COUNTY NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM**

Thank you for your interest in donating a memorial bench to the Natural Areas Program. For \$1,500 (the cost of the bench, memorial plaque, and installation), an individual, family or group can donate a bench to remember a loved one, honor a person or organization, or commemorate a special event. (This amount is subject to change as material and labor costs change.) The bench will provide an opportunity for visitors to a natural area managed by the Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) to rest, observe wildlife, and enjoy South Florida's beautiful native landscapes.

Each donor is limited to one application. A donor may request placement of a bench at a particular natural area, but the site and the specific location of the bench on the site will be determined by ERM staff based on site-specific conditions and the number of benches already present on the site.

A cast bronze 10" x 3" memorial plaque with a heading and text selected by the donor will be attached to an attractive and durable 6' cedar-colored recycled plastic bench that will be mounted securely in the ground. The order will be placed after the agreement, application, and payment have been received and the application has been approved. The bench and plaque will be installed by ERM staff within three months after the approval date. The donor will be notified that the bench is ready for public use.

ERM staff reserves the right to approve the content of the message on the plaque, including the right to approve and reject names and messages that are considered to be inappropriate, illegal or inconsistent with the mission of the Department to protect natural areas. Names of individual members of a group wishing to donate a bench cannot be included on a plaque because of space limitations.

Palm Beach County will not be responsible for replacement of the bench or plaque in the event of loss due to vandalism or acts of God. However, the donor may choose to replace the bench and/or plaque at the donor's expense by submitting a new agreement and application. Palm Beach County reserves the right to remove the bench if it is damaged or defaced and the right to relocate the bench if necessary for safety, environmental or land management reasons. The donor will be notified of the new location of the bench.

I agree to these conditions.

Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Please complete the attached application and bring or mail both documents with your check or money order, payable to "Palm Beach County Natural Areas Fund," to:

Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management
2300 N. Jog Road, 4th Floor
West Palm Beach, FL 33412-2743

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April 28, 2011

Attachment 2



PALM BEACH COUNTY NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

6' Memorial Bench



The contoured supports are 3/8" x 4" rolled steel, shaped to provide a smooth, comfortable seat and backrest. The legs are 2- 1/2" square steel support tubing, welded to an arched 3/8" x 4" formed steel base. The frame is coated black for durability and an attractive appearance. The slats are 4" x 4" cedar-color recycled plastic. The bench is mounted directly into the ground, and each leg is anchored with concrete.

10" x 3" Cast Bronze Plaque



- Dark oxidized pebble-textured background
- Attractive beveled-edge border
- All uppercase characters in font style shown
- Bronze-plated stainless steel screws will not rust
- Letter heights determined by amount of text
- Up to 4 lines of text; maximum of 24 characters per line
- Plaque will be embedded in top slat of bench

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