



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

Citizen Recommendations

C.5.

3/3/2025

Subject:

Jane Higgins - CEER #2025047

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Dept/Office:

N/A

Requested Action:

N/A

Summary Explanation and Background:

Jane Higgins submitted CEER #2025047. Recommendation is attached.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

N/A

Horst, Rachel

From: CEER@brevardfl.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:03 AM
To: Horst, Rachel
Subject: A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2025047

Recommendation # 2025047

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2025047 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

Contact Information:

Group/Organization	Conradina Chapter of the FI Native Plant Society
Name	Jane Higgins
Address	280 NAYLOR ST NE, PALM BAY FL 32907
Phone	(321) 258-4642
Email	janehiggins2016@gmail.com
Alternate Email	

Recommendation Information:

Recommendation ID	2025047
Recommendation Title	Low Impact Development and Design in Brevard County
Areas Affected	Brevard County
Department Affected	
Current problem	

Florida communities must reduce the amount of polluted stormwater entering coastal estuaries, especially the Indian River Lagoon. Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Infrastructure (GI) represent the most progressive trends in stormwater management to protect water quality and reduce flooding. These concepts are gaining widespread popularity throughout the state of Florida and the country as citizens are becoming increasingly concerned about conservation and preserving our environment. We hope Brevard County will join in and become even more ambitiously engaged in LID for the future of our gorgeous county! Thank you!

Recommendation

Our recommendation is to incorporate LID into legislation as is being done throughout other Florida counties. I'd be glad to participate on a committee or task force to investigate and create legislation. Everyone benefits from Low Impact Development! Developers -Reduces land clearing and grading costs -Reduces infrastructure costs (streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, retention ponds) -Reduces rain water management costs -May increase lot yield and may reduce impact fees -Increases lot and community marketability Municipalities -Reduces infrastructure and utility maintenance

costs -Improves residents' quality of life -Balances growth with the need to protect the Indian River Lagoon and the aquifer Residents -Preserves/protects recreation opportunities of natural areas and habitats (IRL) -Improves aesthetics of home and area for livability and re-sale -Provides habitat for birds, butterflies, and bees - Reduces utility costs Environment -Improves water quality -Preserves the balance and integrity of ecological and biological systems -Ensures the future health of the Lagoon by preventing additional pollution -Increases carbon and nutrient absorption and improves soil health -Preserves tree canopy and natural areas -Provides aquifer recharge

Attachments

LID presentation to FI Legislators - Jan 2025.pdf
LID presentation to FI Legislators - Jan 2025.pptx

Please do not reply to this e-mail, as it will go to an unmonitored mailbox.

Florida Native Plant Society, Conradina Chapter



The Mission of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

Conradina provides monthly educational meetings, an annual landscape tour, and volunteer projects to remove invasives and plant native plants. We represent over 1,000 citizens concerned about the Brevard County environment, and collaborate with other environmental groups such as Marine Resources Council, Space Coast Audubon, Surfrider, Keep Brevard Beautiful.

We request that you promote and support legislation and projects that use Low Impact Development and Design (LID) throughout Brevard County to protect our precious wildlife, water, and habitat.

What is Low Impact Development?

- LID is an internationally recognized stormwater management approach that protects downstream surface water quality, reduces downstream flooding, and improves overall resilience.
- LID is an approach to land development that uses various land planning, design practices, and technologies to preserve and protect essential aquifers and waterways such as the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) while reducing infrastructure costs.
- LID allows land to be developed in a cost-effective manner to ensure that home, habitat, and quality of life are sustained for the future.
- Some cities and counties in Florida have taken the initiative and adopted LID into their code, e.g. Alachua and Pinellas counties. LID provides a more sustainable community with a higher level of natural resource protection such as seagrass, fisheries and shellfisheries, manatees, dolphins, and estuarine birds who fish, such as pelicans.
- LID leads to more fishable, swimmable, and healthier waters.



LID Offers Several Environmental Benefits

1. **Improves Water Quality:** LID helps to protect downstream surface water quality by reducing pollutants and contaminants that enter water bodies.
2. **Preserves Ecological Balance:** It maintains the balance and integrity of ecological and biological systems, ensuring the health of natural habitats.
3. **Reduces Flooding:** By managing stormwater effectively, LID reduces downstream flooding, which helps to protect both natural and built environments.
4. **Enhances Soil Health:** LID practices increase carbon and nutrient absorption, which improves soil health.
5. **Protects Natural Areas:** It preserves tree canopies and natural areas, providing habitat for various species and maintaining biodiversity.
6. **Aquifer Recharge:** LID helps to recharge aquifers, ensuring a sustainable water supply for the future.

These benefits contribute to creating a more sustainable and resilient environment



Who Benefits From LID Implementation?

EVERYONE!

Developers

- Reduces land clearing and grading costs
- Reduces infrastructure costs (streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, retention ponds)
- Reduces rain water management costs
- May increase lot yield and may reduce impact fees
- Increases lot and community marketability

Municipalities

- Reduces infrastructure and utility maintenance costs
- Improves residents' quality of life
- Balances growth with the need to protect the Indian River Lagoon and the aquifer

Residents

- Preserves/protects recreation opportunities of natural areas and habitats (IRL)
- Improves aesthetics of home and area for livability and re-sale
- Provides habitat for birds, butterflies, and bees
- Reduces utility costs

Environment

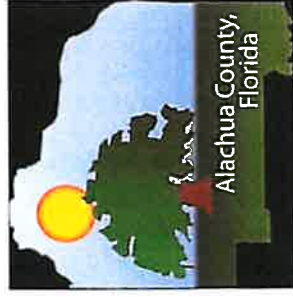
- Improves water quality
- Preserves the balance and integrity of ecological and biological systems
- Ensures the future health of the Lagoon by preventing additional pollution
- Increases carbon and nutrient absorption and improves soil health
- Preserves tree canopy and natural areas
- Provides aquifer recharge





The State of Florida has
been slow to adopt LID
permitting criteria...

...so local governments
are taking the lead.



Please represent us at the state level to support
implementation of LID for the future of Florida!