

Bobby Jones Conservation Easement Priority

THE PURPOSE OF THE CCNA ORGANIZATION IS TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND ENHANCE CITY RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS AND TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS AND STAND IN SUPPORT OF THOSE NEEDS

Dear Commissioners:

Background

As the Executive Board of the Coalition of City Neighborhood Associations (CCNA), we believe the implementation of the “Bobby Jones Restoration Plan, Alternate III,” adopted by the City Commission in 2020 best serves the public’s long-term interest with its inclusion of 27-holes of golf, wetland restoration, nature park, **and Conservation Easement.**

Preserving and enhancing open green spaces have been strong tenets in our membership surveys. **The Conservation Easement is a critical and unique part of the adopted plan.**

The critical importance of the Bobby Jones wetlands restoration project has been confirmed by the Southwest Florida Water Management District’s award of a grant of \$1.5 million dollars for the project.

Summary

The Executive Board urges you to approve the **Conservation Agreement** to protect this environmental land for present and future generations at the January 10, 2022, Special Commission Meeting.

We have submitted a Strategic Plan Proposal to the City for implementation of the adopted Bobby Jones Master Plan, **including the Conservation Easement**, to be completed within two years.

***Our concerns – if the can is kicked down the road,
the critical importance of the Conservation Easement will be passed over; and
the delay will result in substantial loss of revenue, higher costs, and possible loss of grants.***

Thank you.

CCNA Executive Board

Lou Costa Chair	Sue Stewart	Richard Harris	(District 1 Representative)
Charlie Nagelschmidt	Eileen Normile	Dan DeLeo	(District 2 Representative)
Tony Smith	Carl Shoffstall	Norm Dumaine	(District 3 Representative)