

Land Acquisition Committee Quarterly Report: January to April 2015

The Land Acquisition Committee reconvened on February 11th with seven of our nine members. During the five (5) meetings, we have accomplished the following:

A review of the work and recommendations of the Vision 20/20 committee and accumulated efforts by Village Councils to identify and acquire public land. The consensus emerging from these discussions remains consistent with past evaluations: our committee prioritizes bayfront, waterfront, and land providing multipurpose active green space. Land available to expand existing parks is also considered a priority, as well as long term leases and existing green space available for shared use.

We have requested and are reviewing language for an ordinance we plan to propose enable the Council to participate in the real estate market when property of interest becomes available for purchase. The purpose of this ordinance is to address the repeated loss of opportunities to participate as buyers of land needed for public use. The concept is that the Council authorize the Manager to place contracts contingent on Council approval for purchase of property, including final price and terms.

We have made a thorough review of the Village budget, CIP commitments and projections based on a financial model created by Lourdes Abadin with the help of Vivian Parks. Their work demonstrates that with a possible 3% increase the property values for FY2015, the Village could borrow \$35,000,000. Ms. Abadin has provided us with a "what if" model to project assessments and the resulting increases or decreases in tax revenue which can be used to study the potential impact of our recommendations on Village budgets. Please see the attached analysis.

A presentation of the concept of pocket parks to owners and neighbors in the neighborhoods on the Key is being planned. Our purpose is to educate residents and explore interest among those living a substantial distance from the Village Green.

We are working to develop a plan, selection criteria, and further define the LAC's goals and objectives.

Respectively Submitted

Patricia Woodson, Chair