

From: [Jessica L. Wright](#)
To: [Colleen V. Conko](#)
Subject: FW: 201 W MLK Property
Date: Monday, December 1, 2025 2:18:34 PM

Please add to agenda as CTN on December 16th.

From: Barbara Sprague <executivedirector@feed352.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Jeffrey Rogers <JRogers@co.hernando.fl.us>
Cc: Steve Ponticos <sponticos@gmail.com>; Erin Briggs <ebriggs@co.hernando.fl.us>; Veda Ramirez <VRamirez@co.hernando.fl.us>
Subject: 201 W MLK Property

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Happy Thanksgiving!
Good afternoon, Jeff!

I want to express my sincere gratitude to you and your team for the collaborative efforts and development of the RISE Empowerment Center of Hernando County. Together, we have drafted a concept that not only would significantly impact our neighbors in need but would continue to assist and elevate our entire community for generations to come. The Community Food Bank is proud to serve as the food relief hub for Hernando County and continues our mission to promote awareness, inspire involvement, and end hunger.

At this time, the Community Food Bank Board of Directors has decided to rescind our proposal for the leasing and redevelopment of the 201 W MLK property. Sadly, the misinformation, malice, and discord experienced in the immediate community make this particular site unfavorable to our community-driven concept. We will continue to explore other areas and sites where the Community Food Bank and our partners can effectively offer resources, support, and pathways to independence for our residents. We know that one meal will end hunger, but together we can nourish hope in a better future.

Thank you, your staff, the BOCC, and all of our partners for your continued support of the Community Food Bank's efforts and our fight to end hunger.

Thank you,

Barbara Sprague
CEO/Executive Director
<https://dot.cards/barbarasprague>



office (352)628-3663
cell (847)542-0626

www.FEED352.ORG



"Life's persistent and most urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"
Martin Luther King Jr.