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Executive Director

March 6, 2024

Mr. Jeffrey Rogers, P.E.
County Administrator
Hernando County
16161 Flight Path Drive
Brooksville, FL 34604

Subject: Lease for the Weeki Wachee Preserve

Dear Mr. Rogers:

In response to the County's letter dated March 4, 2024, regarding requested changes to the draft Lease Agreement Between the Southwest Florida Water Management District and Hernando County, Florida for the Weeki Wachee Preserve Park (Draft Lease) that was previously provided, the District responds as follows:

1. Page 3, No. 9(B): Regarding your request for the County to potentially identify and request future access points along the boardwalk, the District added language to Page 3, No. 9(B) as follows: Approval of any additional access points shall be at the District's sole discretion.
2. Page 3, No. 9(C): The District replaced the language in that paragraph as follows: Access from the boardwalk into the Park shall only be as shown on the Park Plan.
3. Page 4, No. 10: The District added language as follows: In the event that site conditions make it necessary to adjust the location of any buildings, structures, or other improvements described in this Lease or as set forth in the Park Plan, the County may request such adjustment. Approval of any requested adjustment as contemplated in this paragraph shall be at the sole discretion of the District.
4. Page 4, No. 11: The District added language that provides for a sixty (60) day review period of proposed construction plans. Additionally, the District added language to provide for construction vehicle access as follows: Access to the Park for construction vehicles shall be along the existing maintenance road indicated in the Park Plan. The County shall maintain the existing maintenance road during construction activities to the current standard, and after conclusion of construction activities shall return the existing maintenance road to the current or better condition.
5. The District is not willing to provide a first right of refusal for the entire preserve; however, is willing to provide a first right of refusal for the Lease area. The District added paragraph 26. to the Draft Lease to provide for that opportunity.

Mr. Jeffrey Rogers, P.E.
Subject: Lease for Weeki Wachee Preserve
Page 2
March 6, 2024

A redlined version of the Draft Lease incorporating the above, and an updated draft plan is provided with this letter. As we have previously mentioned, a prompt review of the Draft Lease is appreciated.

Please let me know if you have questions or comments, and thank you for your attention to the edits.

Sincerely,



Brian S. Starford
Division Director
Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Division

:emm

Enclosure(s)

cc: Brian J. Armstrong
Mandi Rice
Chris Tumminia
Frank Gargano
Ellen Morrison
Mike Singer