# FLAGLER BOCC HEADLINES

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER · JULY 2024 · VOLUME 3 · ISSUE 10

#### FLAGLER COUNTY SEEKS CONCESSIONAIRE FOR BULL CREEK CAMPGROUND

Have a restaurant and business model that would be a good fit for the Bull Creek Campground? Flagler County is inviting those who may be interested to complete the "Request for Statements of Qualifications" (RSQ-24-036Q) by 2 p.m. July 8.

"The concessionaire will be expected to provide a quality, unique food service that compliments the campground and Bull Creek Park atmosphere," said General Services Director Mike Dickson. "The county is interested in a long-term lease – three to five years – with an option to renew for an additional five years."

The proposed building is about 3,600 square feet, with 2,400 square feet under air. The maximum seating capacity will be 50. Utilities such as water, sewer, electricity, and gas are available and will be the sole responsibility of the selected concessionaire. Building completion is expected in February 2025.

Kitchen space will be 960 square feet, with 1,440 square feet of indoor seating and a screened porch. The kitchen will be equipped with a walkin cooler, a walk-in freezer, a fryer, a griddle, a char broiler, a double-deck convection oven, a burner range, and other kitchen equipment.

Responses must be delivered to the Flagler County Procurement Division at 1769 E. Moody Boulevard, Building 2, 3rd Floor, Bunnell, FL 32110, and they must be time stamped by a Financial Services Department representative before the due date and time.



## FLAGLER COUNTY SHINES IN 3 CATEGORIES OF NACO 2024 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Flagler County is making its presence known nationwide for the high quality, comprehensive services it provides its residents, and was honored with National Association of Counties (NACo) 2024 Achievement Awards in three categories: Civic Education & Public Information, Libraries, and Parks & Recreation. The awards competition has 18 categories.

"This recognition is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and innovative spirit of Flagler County's elected officials and staff," said County Administrator Heidi Petito. "We are incredibly proud of this accomplishment and remain committed to continuing our efforts towards excellence and improvement, Putting Flagler F.I.R.S.T. ... making a difference!"

Flagler County was awarded for the following projects or initiatives: Transparency Dashboards in the category of Civic Education & Public Information; Food for Thought kiosks in the Libraries category; and, Flagler Greenways Pedestrian Bridge in the Parks & Recreation category.

It is the fifth award the county has received for the Flagler Greenways Pedestrian Bridge. The Flagler Greenways Pedestrian Bridge was designed shortly after the March 2018 collapse of the Florida International University pedestrian bridge in Miami, resulting in many rigorous reviews by Florida Department of Transportation Central Office Structures Design Group. Design focused on materials and detailing with minimal to no service life maintenance costs.

The Flagler County Public Library expanded just a little bit with the opening of two "Food for Thought" kiosks in February 2023 in which nonperishable canned goods can be exchanged for books, or vice-versa, at both the Haw Creek Community Center and the Hidden Trails Community Center. They were so well received that a third was added in May 2023 at the Espanola Community Center.

The Transparency Dashboards (<u>www.flaglercounty.gov/data</u>) were unveiled in May 2023 as part of its pledge to provide accurate information in real time to the community. This innovative tool provides viewers with the opportunity to explore data sets of keen interest in a visual and easyto-understand format.

## **'TUNE IN' TO MEETINGS**

JULY 9: JULY 15: JULY 24: AUGUST 5: PLANNING MEETING AT 6 p.m. BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 5 p.m. TOURIST DEVELOPMENT AT 9 a.m. BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 9 a.m.

#### LIVE STREAM

www.youtube.com/flaglercounty/live



#### FIREFLIGHT ASSISTS WITH ST. JOHNS WILDFIRE -PROTECTING STRUCTURES, ANIMALS

It was happenstance that FireFlight ended up in northwest Flagler County near the St. Johns border and spotted a fire in the habited portion of Flagler Estates that had yet to be reported. Chief Pilot Neil Egerton, who was testing equipment, notified the neighboring county and stayed to help the St. Johns County Fire Department get the fire under control.

"St. Johns (Fire Department) was unaware of the fire, and amazingly no residents had called it in," Egerton said. "Three structures were in danger with fire right up to live animal pens."

Egerton said the fire was tall and climbing. Flagler Estates is rural and situated in a heavily wooded area. He dropped 19 buckets – or 3,990 gallons of water – as well as eight gallons of fire-suppressing foam due to the severity of structure involvement.

"This could have turned out very badly if left unattended," Egerton said. FireFlight was purchased in 2002 for \$1.55 million with Landfill Bond money designated for fire suppression. No General Fund money was used.

It was purchased after the '98 wildfires, which was the first time in US history that an entire county was evacuated due to wildfire. During those fires 71 homes were destroyed, and another 175 homes were damaged.

About 82,000 acres of timber – that was valued at \$4,000 per acre – burned. The timber loss alone was \$328 million. Flagler County spent about \$1.3 million in protective measures in 1998.

"Numerous wildfires have been quashed with the help of FireFlight, which is a great asset to Flagler County," said Fire Rescue Chief Michael Tucker. "More than 2.1 million gallons of water have been dropped on fires."

Flagler County anticipates the delivery of FireFlight's replacement – an Airbus Helicopters model H125 aircraft – within the third quarter of this fiscal year.

### 'DO DATE' EVENTS

07/27/24

Master Gardener Plant Clinic | 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Flagler County Public Library -- Palm Coast 2500 Palm Coast Parkway NW Presented through a partnership with the UF Extension Office in Flagler County

# BREAKERS

#### WEIGH IN ON BING'S LANDING VIA SURVEY NOW UNTIL JULY 7

Love Bing's Landing and want to have a voice in its imminent Master Plan? There is a quick, online survey that is now live and will be open through July 7 (<u>Bing's Landing Master Plan Survey</u>).

"We recently held a meeting about the Master Plan (June 24), but we know there were people who were unable to attend, and we still want their input," said Flagler County General Services Assistant Director Michael Lagasse. "Participating in the survey is a chance to help guide the development of a master plan for one of Flagler County's most beloved parks."

The survey can be completed in about five minutes on either a mobile device or a desktop computer. To ask questions about the plan, survey, or to join the mailing list, please email <u>bingslandingplan@flaglercounty.gov</u>.

"Bing's Landing Master Plan survey is designed to bring the public's input into the planning process for one of our oldest Environmentally Sensitive Lands program-acquired parks," Lagasse said. "It's one of the busiest county parks yearround and serves as a hub for all sorts of recreation, including access to the Matanzas River and the Intracoastal Waterway for boaters of all types, dock fishing, and excellent sunset views."

This survey will assist staff in the development of a Bing's Landing Master Plan. Staff will begin compiling data after the July 7 deadline.

