

City Center Update

Settlement Plan Business Conditions

April 28, 2021

Additional Information Item 5a 4/28/2021

Russ Blackburn, City Manager Wes McCurry, CRA Director Jennifer Davis, CRA Project Manager

Strategic Plan FY 2020/21



Goal 4: Diverse Economy & Employment Opportunities

One of the City's key initiatives is to Reimagine City Center

City Center planning efforts

On hold pending acquisition

US 1 Beautification

Goal 1: Safe, Clean & Beautiful

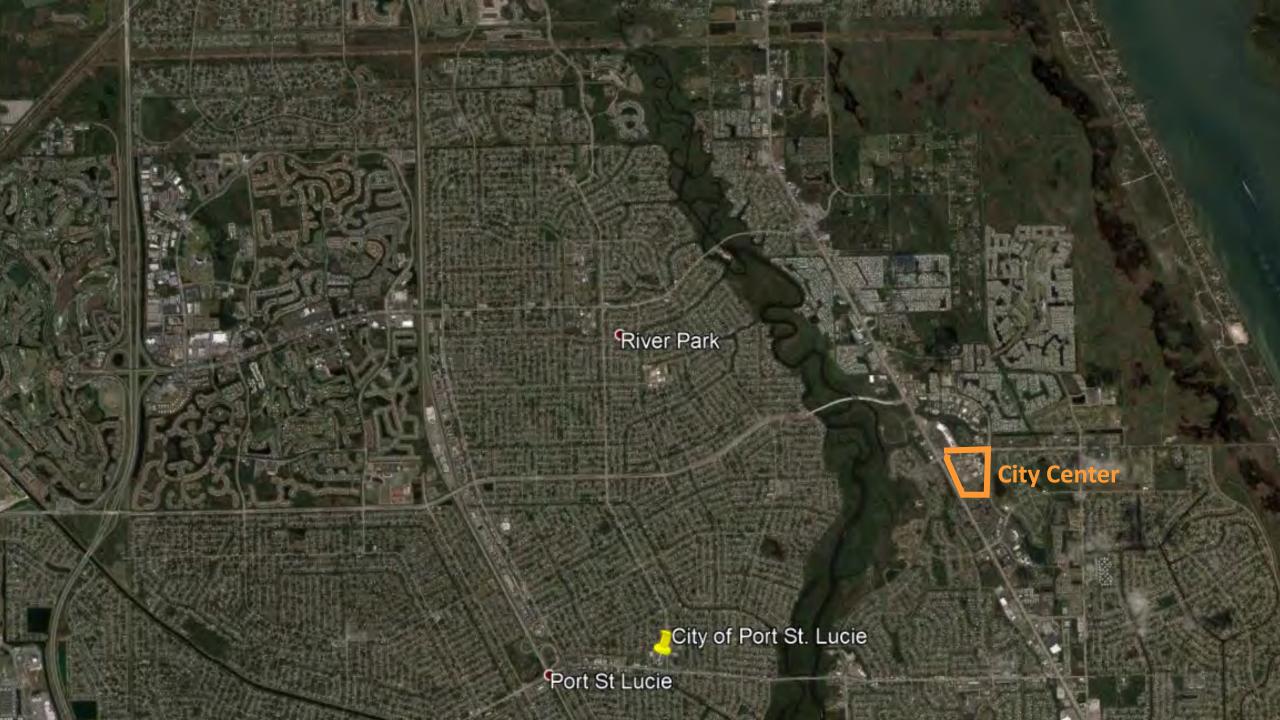
Village Green Drive Corridor Revitalization

Goal 1: Safe, Clean & Beautiful

Staff Request



Staff is requesting that the City Council authorize the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, to finalize agreements with each of the taxing authorities and tax certificate holders based on negotiated business conditions and execute all required stipulated agreements with taxing authorities and tax certificate holders, as facilitated by the St. Lucie County Tax Collector, for the Receiver to present to the Securities and Exchange Commission for the purchase of twenty-two (22) City Center parcels, pursuant to the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement.



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Benefits of City acquiring the City Center Parcels



- The City will be able to follow through on the community's vision for City Center to become a center of activity for the east side of Port St. Lucie.
- The acquisition of the parcels will allow the City to gain control and assemble parcels for strategic redevelopment opportunities.
- The City would be able to ensure the MIDFLORIDA Event Center and other City-held events have sufficient event space and parking.
- The acquisition allows for increased private development potential by placing the City in the role of master developer to negotiate on development of individual components, similar to success seen in Southern Grove.

Overall Costs associated with City Center Parcels



- As a result of covenant to budget and appropriate (CBA), the City pays special assessments on the City Center parcels total just over \$1.7 million annually.
- As of February 2021, approximately \$47.707 million is due to Tax Collector for back taxes, assessments, interest, fees, etc., including the cost to redeem privately held tax certificates. This includes delinquent City special assessments including interest, fees, etc., of approximately \$41.4 million.
- Appraisal indicates an approximate valuation of negative \$25 million up to approximately a positive \$15 million, assuming the varying application or forgiveness of the above outstanding taxes and assessments, as well as the remaining special assessments.

February 2021 outstanding balances due to all Taxing Authorities

Agency	Principal	Est. Interest	Est. Total
City	\$430,799.20	\$237,551.42	\$668,350.62
County	\$427,304.80	\$235,624.54	\$662,929.34
School District	\$403,195.22	\$222,330.02	\$625,525.24
Fire District	\$163,010.44	\$89,887.26	\$252,897.70
Erosion District E	\$6,022.93	\$3,321.17	\$9,344.10
Environ Signif Land Bond	\$203.43	\$112.18	\$315.61
St. Lucie County Port Bond	\$422.70	\$233.09	\$655.79
Children Services Council	\$26,894.73	\$14,830.30	\$41,725.03
Florida Inland Navigation District	\$1,849.28	\$1,019.73	\$2,869.01
Mosquito Control*	\$12,370.64	\$6,821.42	\$19,192.06
S FL Wtr Mgmt District*	\$20,421.46	\$11,260.81	\$31,682.27
TOTAL	<u>\$1,492,494.83</u>	<u>\$822,991.93</u>	<u>\$2,315,486.76</u>

Proposed negotiated settlements



- St. Lucie County Reflects principal taxes of \$427,308.80 be reimbursed if/when parcels have sold at City Center (or 10 years, whichever is sooner); Midway projects.
- St. Lucie County School District Use of MidFlorida Credit Union Event Center for 6 event days per year for 10 years. No monetary compensation.
- St. Lucie County Fire District Fee simple transfer of 4+/- acres of 13+/- acre tract currently leased to Fire District off NW Milner Dr; to be used for construction of new fire station. No monetary compensation.
- Children Services Council Establish a CSC page on the City's website and publish CSC-produced content on webpage and through PSL government programming; inclusion in City University. No monetary compensation.

City of Port St. Lucie



- Taxes The City is owed \$430,799.20 in principal, and an estimated \$237,551.42 in interest, totaling an estimated \$668,350.62.
- Special Assessments The City has covered special assessments of just over \$1.7 million annually, resulting in over \$19.580 million in payments, plus would be due approximately an additional \$21.797 million in estimated interest, totaling nearly \$41.4 million.
- Abatement of the amount owed to the City is not necessary at the closing of the Parcels.
- City Council can consider the value of what may be recognized through the identification and retention of additional parcels for governmental purposes at City Center, which will offset or even exceed what would be reflected in the outstanding taxes owed.

February 2021 – outstanding balances to be paid to Taxing Authorities

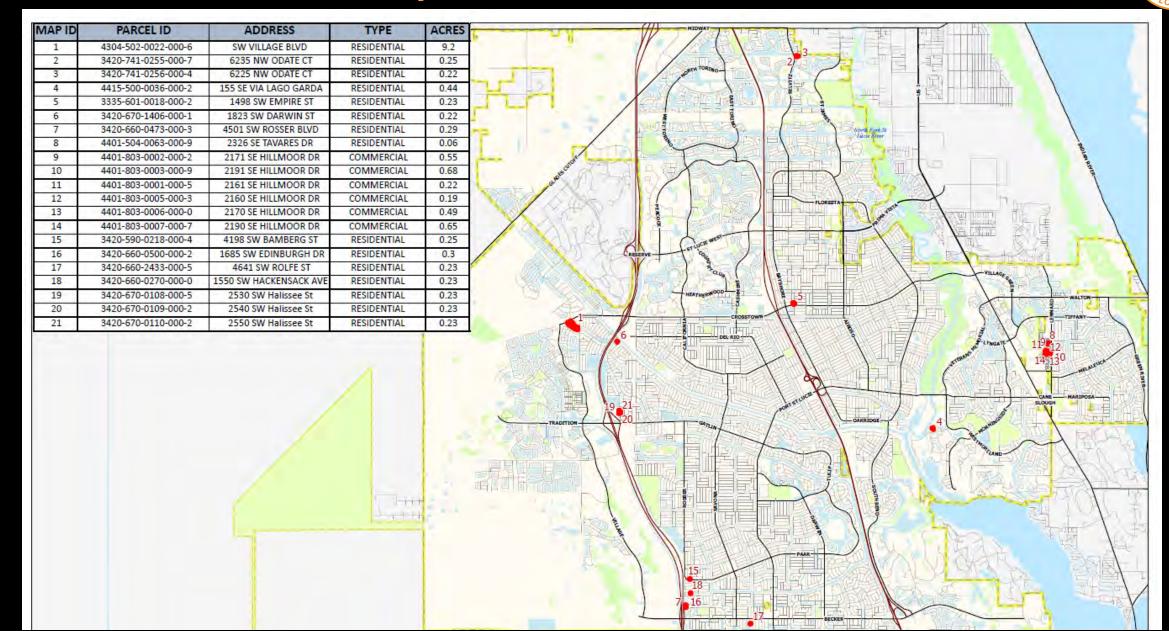
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TOTAL	<u>\$41,290.44</u>	\$22,768.40	<u>\$64,058.84</u>

Tax Certificate Holders



- Five (5) entities purchased tax certificates on the Parcels and, as of February 2021 would be owed \$6,329,643.66 in principal, interest, penalties and fees.
- The majority tax certificate holders were not interested in a reduced cash settlement amount that would be feasible to the City.
- In turn, the City offered to convey vacant "City Parcels" in exchange for the certificate holders relinquishing their interests and claims in the tax certificates. These parcels came to the City in a variety of ways, including the escheatment process.
- The estimated market value of the "City Parcels" is just over \$3 million, and best represents the face value of the tax certificates.

"City Parcels" for consideration



Financial impact of City acquisition



- As a result of covenant to budget and appropriate (CBA), the City will continue to pay approximately \$1.7 million annually to cover special assessments, until such time as any of the parcels are sold to the private sector.
- The City would not be subject to annual property taxes for all parcels acquired, so long as they are utilized for governmental/public purpose.
- The City will pay maintenance costs on all parcels associated with City Center.
- The SEC Receiver agreed to sell the Receiver-held parcels to the City for \$400,000, with the understanding that the City will satisfy all outstanding debt owed to taxing authorities and tax certificate holders.
- The City recommends paying the smaller taxing authorities just over \$64,000.

Next Steps

- Stipulated agreements will be drafted by St. Lucie County Tax Collector's office.
- Negotiated business conditions and executed stipulated agreements with each of the larger taxing authorities will need to be approved by respective governing boards. (45-60 days)
- City staff will bring the Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) forward for City Council approval.
- Executed stipulated agreements and PSA will then be presented by the Receiver to the Federal Court for approval. (2 weeks)
- If the above timeline holds, City staff will bring planning alternatives forward at a CRA Meeting in July 2021.

Staff Recommendation



Move that the City Council authorize the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, to finalize agreements with each of the taxing authorities and tax certificate holders based on negotiated business conditions and execute all required stipulated agreements with taxing authorities and tax certificate holders, as facilitated by the St. Lucie County Tax Collector, for the Receiver to present to the Securities and Exchange Commission for the purchase of twenty-two (22) City Center parcels, pursuant to the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

Further Discussion and Questions



