

NOKOMIS CENTER REVITALIZATION

Project: REDUCE BOATING CONFLICTS (RC-2)

Project Type: County Project

Project and Background Description:

Reduce boating conflicts on bay and creek waterways within the Nokomis Center by marking creek channels and designating canoe and kayak trails.

Nokomis waterways offer great opportunities for boating, canoeing, and kayaking. Improvements are needed to help boaters navigate shallow creek waters and to direct and inform users about the various recreational opportunities. Signs should be located to mark the channel in Shakett Creek and possibly Curry Creek, where necessary. Canoe and kayak trails on Curry Creek and in Lyons Bay will reduce conflicts with motor boats and jet skis. A canoe trail guide will provide additional interpretation about boating safety and the natural areas. Canoe and kayak trails will be coordinated with a similar “blueways” project for Osprey.

Decisions regarding future dredging of Lyons Bay, Dona Bay, Roberts Bay and Shakett Creek and Curry Creek should be coordinated through the Sarasota County Waterways Advisory Group (WAG). The Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners appointed residents and agency representatives to WAG in March 2000 to provide assistance for the development of a County navigational dredging program.

Public canoe and kayak access to Shakett Creek needs to be identified in the area east of the railroad trestle. One consideration is a privately-owned parcel west of Shakett Creek, north of Laurel Road.

Preliminary Cost Estimates:

Route Designation	Staff Project and Volunteers
Trail Signage and Permits (30 @ 105 each)	\$ 3,450
Canoe Trail Guide	\$ 6,000
Interpretive and Education Signage	\$ 15,000
<i>Total Estimated Cost</i>	<i>\$ 24,450</i>

Potential Funding Source(s):

Florida Boating Improvement Program, National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Program

Implementation Time Frame:

Short to Mid-term, one to five years

Responsible Parties:

Resource Permitting, Parks and Recreation, Planning Services

Steps Required to Implement:

- Locate channels in Shakett Creek for markers.
- Develop canoe/kayak trail and identify points of interest for interpretive signs.
- Work with Sarasota County Waterways Advisory Group on dredging improvements.

Issues Requiring Further Analysis/Action:

1. Identify canoe/kayak access to Shakett Creek.

