

# Board of County Commissioners

## Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: June 7, 2010

Date Submitted: June 1, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator  
Timothy P. Barden, Assistant County Administrator  
Eva Thorpe, OMB Analyst

Subject: Request Board Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Kodak American Greenways Program

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### **Statement of Issue:**

This agenda item requests Board approval to submit a Grant Application (Attachment #1) to the Kodak American Greenways Program for \$2,500 to cover design costs of a nature trail (Attachment #2) at the Wakulla County Welcome Center and contiguous property.

### **Background:**

Each year, the Eastman Kodak Company – Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society, team up to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. One major element of this effort includes “seed” grant awards to organizations that are growing the nations network of greenways, blue ways, trails and natural areas. Greenways is defined as, “corridors of protected public or private lands – link recreational, cultural and national features and provide multiple public benefits”.

Local governments and other organizations are invited to submit proposals for small greenway project grants to advance one or more of the following program goals:

- Catalyzing new greenway projects.
- Assisting grassroots greenway organizations.
- Leveraging additional money for conservation and greenway development.
- Promoting use and enjoyment of greenways.

This program anticipates awarding up to 50% of the grants to those greenways projects that involve natural, cultural, and/or socio-political historical themes. **The application deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. No match is required.** Most grants range from \$500 to \$2,500.

The Panacea Waterfronts Committee requested that staff assist with making application to the Eastman Kodak Company and provided the nature trail sketch for consideration by the Board.

### **Analysis**

The Wakulla Welcome Center is currently undergoing renovations that should be completed shortly. Once the renovations are completed, the former occupant, the Blue Crab Festival and

Waterfronts Committee will continue to utilize space and oversight. The goal of this nature trail is to make this County facility more attractive and increase its use by local residents and tourist. The design of the nature trail will loop from the Welcome Center property to adjoining state property, and is intended to provide picnic type amenities for tourist and locals to visit, use as rest area and to enjoy meals from local businesses and enjoy the view of beautiful Dickinson Bay. The Waterfronts Committee came up the conceptual design of the trail (Attachment #2) with the anticipation that if this application is funded, a formalized design would be created to use with the submission of future grant funding applications to fund the construction of the trail.

**Options:**

1. Approve staff to submit a grant application to the Eastman Kodak Company.
2. Do not approve staff to submit a grant application to the Eastman Kodak Company.
3. Board Direction.

**Recommendation:**

Option #1

**Attachment(s):**

1. Application Eastman Kodak Company – The Conservation Fund
2. Sketch of Proposed Nature Trail

[BHP/TB/EST]