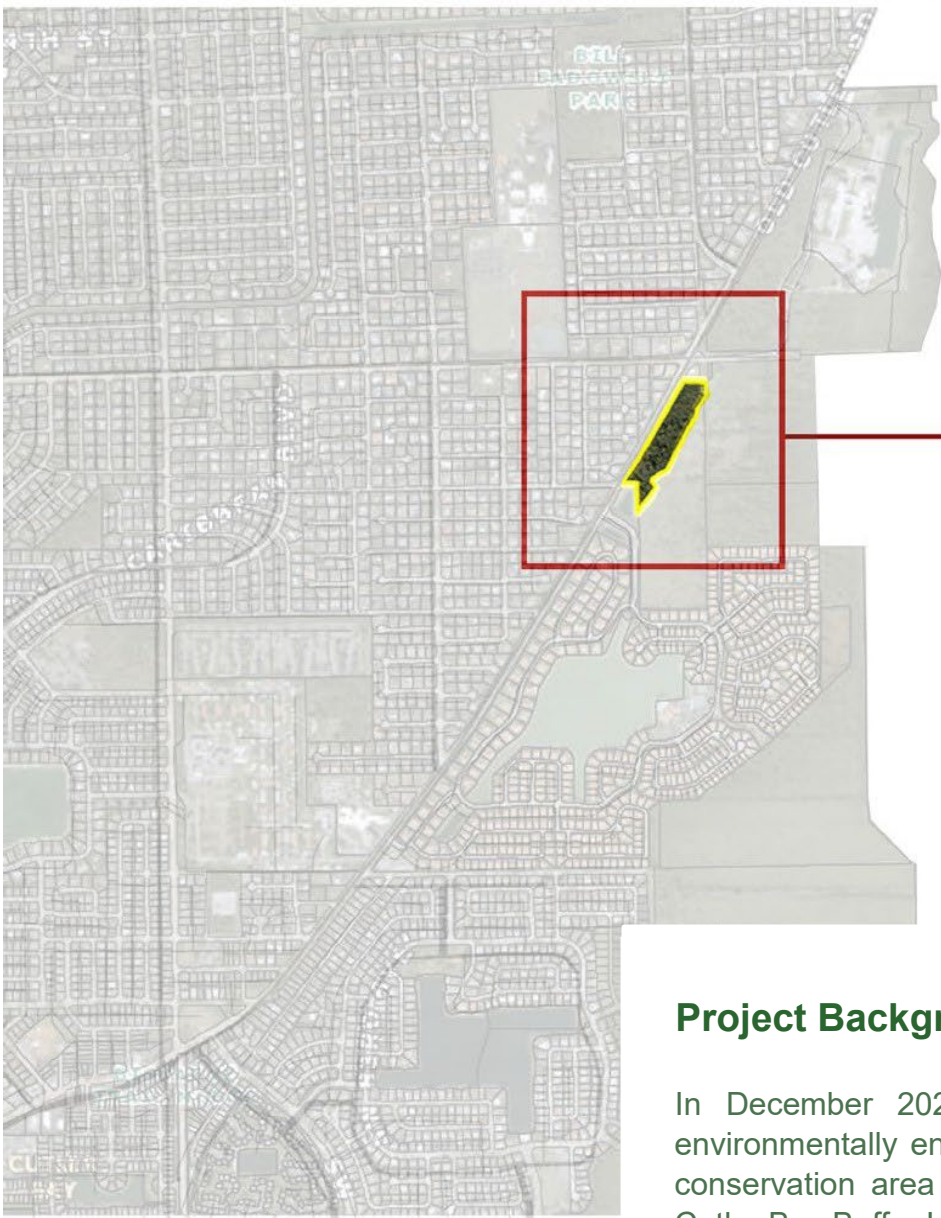




8.5-Acre Restoration Land Project Vision

PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND



Project Background

In December 2020, the Town purchased approximately 8.435 acres of environmentally endangered buffer land at 18551 Old Cutler Rd to serve as a conservation area and mitigate the impacts of sea level rise as part of the Cutler Bay Buffer Land Restoration Project.

PROJECT FUNDING

- In late 2022, and with the support of the Town Council, the Town has secured a total of **\$1,106,570 in grant funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Communities Trust Program** to offset the Town's acquisition cost of approximately \$8,500,000.
- In June 2023, the Town accepted an **FDEP Resilient Florida Program Grant Award in the amount of \$250,000** to fund the design, permitting, and removal of invasives.
- **The Town has committed a \$250,000 match** from Town funds.
- An additional appropriation was approved by **Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners in the amount of \$250,000.**

- **Objective C-4:** Protect the 100-year floodplain, groundwater aquifer recharge, and the natural drainage features within the Town of Cutler Bay.
- **Objective C-5:** The Town will conserve and protect the remaining natural systems of Cutler Bay in recognition of the inherent values of these areas left in their natural state.
- **Objective C-7:** The Town will ensure that wildlife and plant species as listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern that inhabit the environments in Cutler Bay are protected and enhanced where possible.
- **Objective C-11:** The Town will continually seek opportunities for public acquisition of additional areas for nature preserves and passive open spaces to expand the opportunities for conservation and increase public appreciation of natural habitats within the community.

PROJECT VISION CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental



Educational



The vision for this project may include:



Potential boardwalk



Perimeter fence with swing gates



Educational pavilion



Interactive educational signs



Bike racks



Observation / resting benches

PROJECT CONCEPT PLAN

Concept 1

Benches and interactive educational kiosks

Pedestrian arrival

Pedestrian arrival

Parking

Nature center pavilion

Meandering pathway

Observation deck to wetlands

Nature center pavilion



PROJECT CONCEPT PLAN

Concept 2

Pedestrian arrival

Benches and interactive educational kiosks

Pedestrian arrival

Parking

Nature center pavilion

Observation deck to wetlands

Meandering pathway

Observation deck to wetlands

Nature center pavilion



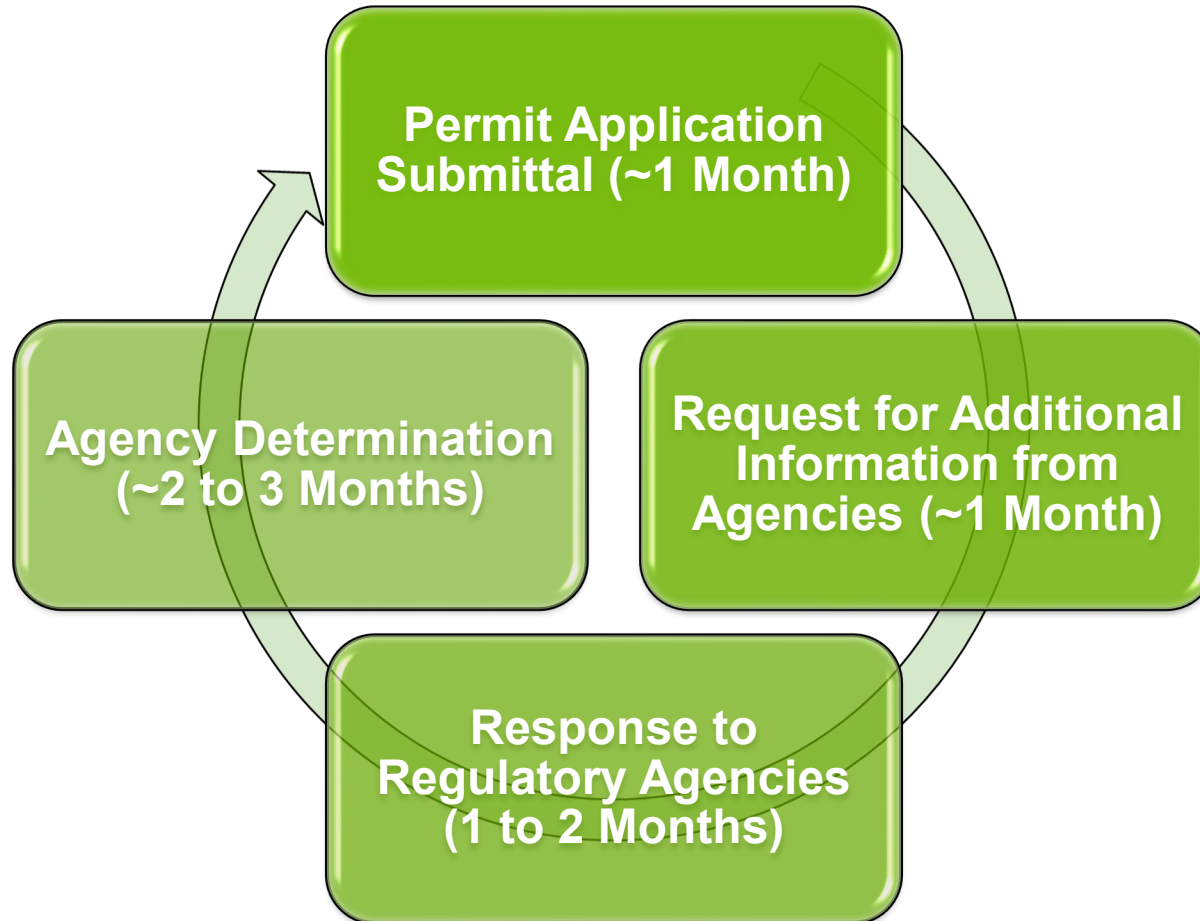
Planning

- Conceptual planning, incorporate elements identified in prior concept plans, such as walking paths, seating areas, educational signage, and bike racks.
- Public input on preliminary concept plans this SATURDAY – April 6th!
- Refined conceptual plans.
- Additional public review and input.
- Final concept plan, based on public feedback, depicting all elements to be included in the plan.
- Presentation to the Town Council to adopt via resolution.

Permitting

- Environmental permitting and agency coordination to secure environmental permits for the removal of exotic / invasive species.
 - Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
 - Class IV Wetland Permit
 - Tree Removal Permit
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - State 404 Permit
 - South Florida Water Management District
 - Environmental Resource Permit
- Developing the scope of work for removal and BID documents, bid phase, award phase, and construction.

Environmental Permitting Path



DISCUSSION

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