



Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Charles "Chuck" Chestnut, IV, *Chair*
Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson, *Vice Chair*
Mike Byerly
Ken Cornell
Lee Pinkoson

Administration
Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CM
County Manager

September 22, 2015
(Electronic Version)

Dear Members of the City Commissions and City Managers:

On behalf of the Alachua County Commission, I am requesting your position on proposed referendum ballot language regarding funding for land conservation and recreational improvements.

That referendum ballot question is: *"Shall Alachua County be authorized to extend the Alachua County Forever Program to acquire and improve environmentally sensitive lands to protect drinking water sources, water quality, and wildlife habitat, and to create, improve, and maintain park and recreational facilities in all cities and the County, with citizen oversight and independent audit, by the levy of a one-half percent sales tax for ten years starting January 1, 2017?"*

That ballot question did very well (67% in favor) in Trust for Public Land (TPL) poll and was recommended by the Joint County/Gainesville/League of Cities Task Force constituted to deliberate the question.

I am respectfully requesting your City Commission's input by October 30, 2015 in order to allow consideration at the November meeting of the Joint County/Gainesville/League of Cities City Task Force.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles S. Chestnut, IV". The signature is stylized and includes a small mark at the end.

Charles S. Chestnut, IV, Chair
Alachua County Commission
Chr15.081

CSC/rpb

Att: TPL Conservation Finance Feasibility Study, May 2015
TPL Presentation to Alachua County Commission, September 15, 2015

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Joint County/City Task Force Members
Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CM, County Manager
Michele Lieberman, County Attorney
Chris Bird, Environmental Protection Department