

**Turnbull Creek Task Force
December 16, 2019**

City Engineer Kyle Fegley spoke about the condition of the Turnbull Watershed that encompasses about 2,000 acres of wetlands. The normal water level is .7 feet and there are mitigation requirements for adjacent development related to existing water flow. He also discussed existing contaminants and restrictions related to 100 year, 24 hour storm events.

Staff: Brian Fields reviewed the current priority spread sheet rankings including properties where the owners may be willing to sell and those who are not ready to sell. Appraised values were included.

City Manager Khalid Resheidat confirmed the amount of remaining funds after the purchase of Turnbull Trace that can be used for additional acquisitions.

The owners of the large parcel (#101) on the southern portion of the creek that currently is home to the Sugar Mill Ruins RV Park are not willing to sell at this time but staff will continue a dialog with them. This includes parcel number 107 that has a fishing lake. However, there are many parcels north of these properties all the way to SR 44 that may be willing to sell. There are also a number of properties adjacent and north of SR 44 that may be willing to sell. This group goes north all the way to Turnbull Trace that the City has purchased. If these properties can be acquired, this will create a long corridor all the way from Pioneer Trail to just north of the Sugar Mill Ruins bringing environmental protection and enhanced water flow to a large portion of the creek.

Staff will confirm the ownership and use of the parcel that is directly behind the Publix shopping center on SR 44.

1. The Task Force recommended to the Commission that two sets of contiguous properties be prioritized for purchase. These are the group north of SR 22 that includes parcels number 69 to 79 and the group south of SR 44 that includes 80,91,92,93,94,95,96. The owners may desire to sell some adjoining properties that were not part of the initial evaluation.
2. The Task Force also recommended that the City enter into negotiations with all other properties along the Turnbull Creek to secure environmental and conservation easements.

The Staff will also examine existing regulations that protect the Creek and watershed for enhanced protective enhancements. This includes obstructions and long docks.

These recommendations will now be sent to the City Commission.