

July 12, 2023

Mr. Edward F. Lavallee  
City Manager  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Ave.  
Venice, FL 34285

Subject: Parks Interlocal Agreement

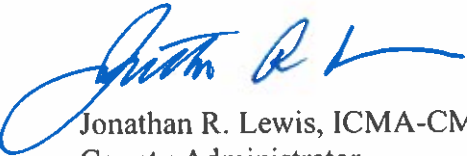
Dear Mr. Lavallee:

Based on my letter dated May 11, 2023, indicating the County's willingness to meet and hear the City's ideas related to the Parks Interlocal Agreement and the future of Wellfield Park, County and City staff met on June 14, 2023. Brad Johnson, James Clinch, Nicole Rissler and Rick Simpson met to further discuss the City's ideas and proposals related to the Parks Interlocal Agreement that expires in 2026 and the future of Wellfield Park.

My understanding is the City's team presented its concepts related to the interlocal. As it specifically relates to Wellfield, both City and County staff agree to identify funding sources to support the redevelopment of Wellfield Park. In addition, staff agreed to continue to evaluate the current and possible future interlocal agreements for management of parks within the City of Venice. It would be difficult to get too far in any discussion on Wellfield without first addressing the overall interlocal agreement. To aid on that issue and follow-up on items from the June 14, 2023, meeting, we have updated the 2018 Statement of Principles (enclosed). We believe that the enclosed principles would serve as the foundation of an interlocal as a whole and more specifically for Wellfield.

As always, we value our partnership with the City of Venice and look forward to continuing our relationship to provide quality services and amenities to our community. We look forward to continued discussion between City and County staff on this topic.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA-CM  
County Administrator

Enclosure: Draft Updated Statement of Principles

c: Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator  
James Clinch, Assistant City Manager  
Nicole Rissler, Director of Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources  
Rick Simpson, Director of Public Works

## Statement of Principles

### City of Venice and Sarasota County Parks Interlocal Agreement

July 2023

This document summarizes proposed concepts of a future Interlocal Agreement between the City of Venice and Sarasota County for parks and recreation services.

#### A. City of Venice Parks Included in Interlocal Agreement

The following parks will be managed by Sarasota County through the new interlocal agreement:

- Brohard Park (including Service Club Park, Pier Parking, Maxine Barritt, Dog Beach/Park and other associated portions of Brohard Park)
- Marina Park and Boat Ramp
- Pinebrook Park (as part of an extension of Wellfield Park)
- Venice Beach

#### B. Parks to be returned to City of Venice

The following parks will be returned to the City of Venice for full responsibility of management at the termination of the current Interlocal Agreement:

- Chauncy Howard Park
- Chuck Reiter Park
- West Side of Venetian Waterway Park
- Hecksher Park
- Higel Marine Park
- Legacy Park
- Venice Community Center
- Venice Myakka River Park

#### C. East Side of Venetian Waterway Park

- Sarasota County will assume all responsibility for management, maintenance and capital improvements for the east side of Venetian Waterway Park beginning at the termination of the current interlocal agreement.

#### D. Wellfield Park

- Wellfield Park will be deeded to Sarasota County.
- Sarasota County will assume all responsibility for management, maintenance and capital improvements beginning the date of conveyance.
- Sarasota County agrees to redevelop Wellfield Park as a regional sports complex in the future.
- City of Venice agrees to commit a total of 20 million dollars funding for capital improvement and redevelopment of Wellfield Park.

- City of Venice will pay five million dollars to Sarasota County within 12 months of conveyance - funding source to be determined by City of Venice (Impact Fee, Surtax, Other).
- Sarasota County will allocate a maximum of two million dollars per year from the City of Venice District Park Impact Fees, beginning the FY after the new agreement is executed. Total dollars allocated will be dependent on available funding collected each year. This will be collected until the total commitment of 20 million dollars has been reached.
- Sarasota County agrees to commit a minimum of 20 million dollars to the redevelopment of Wellfield Park.

E. Term of the New Interlocal

- The term of the agreement will be an initial 10 years with one five-year renewal.

F. Pre-existing Reservations, Agreements and Conditions

- The County, through the course of its routine operations has entered into facility reservations or other agreements with users. The City will consider the impact to the user to allow continued use whenever possible at whatever rate they deem appropriate if there is a charge.
- Any existing facility conditions related to maintenance or capital repair will be the responsibility of the City.

G. Personnel

- Current County employees will be given consideration for employment if the facility they work at will transfer to the City.

H. Transfer of Records and Equipment

- The County shall transfer any existing records the City deems helpful as they assume responsibilities of transferred facilities.
- County shall transfer maintenance equipment strictly used for the particular park-site. Equipment that is shared between various parks will not be included.