



TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

SUBJECT: Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project
CIP #7201654, Project #4X0003

DATE: April 11, 2017

City Engineer Gus Psihoyos recommends City Council approval of the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost of \$231,690 for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project located in the 16th Street Detention Basin.

The proposed floating island system is a form of a wetland which will “bio-mimic” natural floating wetland systems invented by Nature. Vegetated with native plants, it is a beautiful, natural and sustainable eco-system which provides many benefits, from habitat restoration to water cleansing.

When a floating island is launched, a whole diverse eco-system is created which attracts life in all its forms, from microbes to nymphs, to butterflies, to fish, birds.... all the way up the food chain.

The proposed floating island system consists of fourteen floating islands that vary in size from 70 square feet to 300 square feet in area. The total combined island area is 2,660 square feet. The islands will be assembled, planted with native wetland plants, launched, and anchored to the bottom of the Lower Bee Branch Creek and 16th Street Detention Basin.

I concur with the recommendation and respectfully request Mayor and City Council approval.


Michael C. Van Milligen

MCVM:jh

Attachment

cc: Crenna Brumwell, City Attorney
Cindy Steinhauser, Assistant City Manager
Teri Goodman, Assistant City Manager
Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer