

**From:** [michael bertalan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#), [BCC Agenda](#)  
**Subject:** Documents for public hearing 8-24-21  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 9:28:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [PinellasCounty August24thMeeting.pdf](#)

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Michael Bertalan  
3654 Shady Ln, Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
7273659457 email - michael\_bertalan@hotmail.com  
Agenda date 8-24-21  
Topic - Relocation of Dunn recycling facility to Wall Springs Park

Coastal wetlands  
Critical foraging habitat  
Outstanding FI Waters  
Aquatic Preserve

Proposed Recycling  
Center in park and  
neighborhood

## COMPLIANCE CONCERNS

- Wetland impacts not covered by existing WMD permit; **County staff did not consult with WMD or obtain prior permit amendments before clearing and grading.**
- Florida Division of Historical Resources documented archaeological site; **no evaluation was conducted prior to site selection or digging.**
- Project **does not meet the 25-foot setback requirement from mangroves**
- Project **threatens to degrade Outstanding Florida Waters** protected by Florida law.



No ability to control marine debris or address risks to wildlife



## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

- Within 25 feet of a state aquatic preserve, ***project conflicts with the objectives of aquatic preserve's management plan.***
- Within 25 feet of state-designated critical foraging habitat; ***project threatens to diminish water quality for endangered wildlife.***
- ***Removal of old-growth, mature trees*** cannot be adequately mitigated.
- Flood zone designation and climate change projections make site unsuitable. ***Marine debris, chemical pollutants, and increased runoff/flooding cannot be prevented.***



Exposed garbage and careless dumping at current site



## COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- **Documented safety concerns** associated with current site now move into a residential area and community park with playground.
- **Proximity to residences** much closer (within 100') than at other park recycling facilities.
- **Noise, smell, wildlife attractants, litter, and illegal dumping** are valid concerns documented at other sites.
- **Increased runoff and flooding** at this high-velocity and low elevation site.
- **Increased large-vehicle traffic on a 1-lane road**, DeSoto Boulevard.

## PROCESS CONCERNS

- ***No attempt at stakeholder engagement*** during site selection.
- ***No publicly available information*** on site plans or proposed relocation.
- After communication concerns were raised, ***no information published on County websites, in park kiosks, or on community social media pages.***
- County staff requested that citizen emails and phone calls on the issue cease, and ***restricted participation in a meeting to discuss concerns.***

No attempt to inform neighboring residents or park users prior to impacts



Florida Outstanding Waters, aquatic preserve and wildlife critical habitat

Pedestrian gate allows 24-hour access, security concerns not addressed

Low elevation/high velocity flood zone, prone to current flooding and runoff

Project doesn't meet mangrove setback requirements for coastal wetlands impacts

Proximity to residences much closer than at other park recycling centers

BEFORE



AFTER



## Carpenter, Katherine

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2021 4:59 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Dunn Recycling Relocation

BCC Agenda Date 8-24-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

Comments I strongly oppose moving the Dunn Recycling Facility to Wall Springs Park (25 feet from the Gulf of Mexico and historical natural springs). Out of the 205 acres that there are to chose from, its is hard to understand why this spot would have been chosen. It is the only spot that borders multiple neighborhoods including a retirement community that is 10 feet away, borders the Pinellas Trail which has high activity and will increase the traffic, 20 feet from the Gulf of Mexico where there protected species- animal and plant-life, evacuation zone A, flood zone XE, high velocity zone. This project all around has taken shortcuts and has been ill planned. Permits not being sought or researched, 11 more trees were cut down than were part of the original plan due to damaging the root system. Please consider keeping at the current location or closing a different, more appropriate site, This proposed plans has hurt the environment and will only continue if this recycling receptacles are moved to this location.

Citizen Name Susanne Amore Bertalan

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Phone

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## Carpenter, Katherine

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2021 4:39 PM  
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### Live Form

Topic Wall Springs Recycling dumpsters

BCC Agenda Date 8-24-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

Comments I have concerns regarding the county's decision to place dumpsters for plastic recycling less that 20 feet from the Gulf of Mexico - At best it is a fool hardy idea at its worse is extremely irresponsible. I am disheartened to not hear that alternative locations were not discussed. Such as the VERY large parcel on the north end expansion of Wall Springs Park that abuts Wai Lani Rd. That area is better suited for the relocated recycling dumpsters. If for no other reason than they would not be RIGHT NEXT to the Gulf of Mexico! However the WSP expansion next to Wai Lani rod has may other benefits- ease of access for both trucks and residents, There is enough traffic in the area for the " watchful eyes of citizens the county desires". And most importantly it is not placing plastic blow off in harms way of the Gulf.

Citizen Name Greg Tolman

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## Carpenter, Katherine

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2021 4:57 PM  
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### Live Form

Topic Relocation of Dunn recycling

BCC Agenda Date 8-24-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

Comments  
\* We are strongly opposed to the proposition of the relocation of the Dunn recycling center. Many of our reasons should be common sense. There will undoubtedly be spillage/contaminants coming from the recycling bin. We all know that people don't use recycling centers for what they are intended for and many times set out dangerous items that could be leaching into the nearby water.. We feel there are many other suitable sites, even others within Wall Springs. This site is bordered (within yards) by homes, coastal wetlands, and an aquatic preserve and simply is not a good fit. The associated environmental and community concerns cannot be sufficiently addressed. In addition to these valid points it's such a hideously distasteful site to have to view upon entering or leaving our once heavily wooded area that we love so much. I can speak for each one of us when I say this is a huge deciding factor to buy into this neighborhood. We believe this has the potential to bring down the value down of each one of our homes. This is not something we take lightly.

Citizen Name David and Rachel Gause

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