

## Carpenter, Katherine

---

**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
<noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:15 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

### CAUTION:

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. Do Not Click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

### Live Form

Topic County Purchase of Gladys Douglas-Hackworth Property  
BCC Agenda Date 10-20-2020  
Your Stand on the Issue Support

### Comments

I am a Dunedin native and have worked and lived within or in proximity to the County for 50 years. In that time, I've observed a lot of changes, many of them good, but not all of them. Overdevelopment and lack of cohesive planning to maintain natural green space is a constant problem that hurts community livability, as well ecological systems and biodiversity. I know this site has been on the radar for nearly 15 years because as a former County employee and ecologist I was involved in initial coordination with the City on the first attempt to draw up a Florida Communities Trust grant to acquire funding to purchase this property. That was back in 2006 and the attempt was quickly stymied by the County for lack of money and political will. Things are different now. There is a sense of urgency and \*reality\* that this rare ecological gem will be lost to development. The rare rosemary bald/sand pine scrub is the ONLY one of its kind left in the County. The baygall habitat is also extremely rare. There are listed plant and animal species present on site. The property will now cost more, but there is political will, I hope. There is certainly public will. And the public will not let this property go quietly. It is too valuable ecologically and too valuable in terms of what it can offer recreationally to the residents of the County. There is no reason the County should be on the hook for the whole purchase price, but they must show leadership on this if it is to happen. I urge the County to come up with whatever means are necessary to make this purchase. If needed apply for every grant opportunity to achieve reimbursement (FCT, FRDAP, etc.) We have 30 days to get a real offer to Douglas-Hackworth estate. I ask the Board to show direction on this. The County and City have a real opportunity to partner and purchase this site for the benefit of future generations. Please do not let this opportunity pass.

### Citizen Name

Karen Hill

Address 12907 ROYAL GEORGE AVE  
ODESSA, FL 33556-5710  
United States

Phone 813-2994722

Email [khill29@hotmail.com](mailto:khill29@hotmail.com)