

DATE: January 19, 2010

ITEM NO: _____
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR



AGENDA ITEM

MARION COUNTY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Relocation of Confederate Soldier Statue

INITIATOR: Dr. Lee Niblock **DEPARTMENT:** Administration
County Administrator

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND: At the December 1, 2009 Board of County Commissioners meeting, the Board directed staff to work with Mr. Landis Curry, Jr., the Marion County Historical Commission and Commissioner Stone, who offered to serve as the Board liaison on the relocation of the Confederate Soldier statue. The following options were offered for consideration at that time:

1. Ocala / Marion County Veterans Memorial Park
 - a. Relocate the statue to the northwest corner of the park where it could remain in-tact as a 23 foot tall statue.
 - b. Relocate the statue to the Civil War Plaza.
2. Marion County Courthouse
 - a. Leave the statue where it is.
 - b. Relocate the statue approximately 75 feet from its current location.
3. East Hall on the McPherson Governmental Complex

The consensus of the Board was to relocate the statue from its current Courthouse location which eliminated Option 2. The Board appointed committee is not supportive of Option 3 (East Hall) for fear of vandalism and lack of visibility.

Therefore, the group explored Option 1A (Relocation to the northwest areas of Veterans Memorial Park, Veterans Memorial Park) and Option 1B (Relocation to the Civil War Plaza) in more detail. Modifying the height of

the statue for the Civil War Plaza (Option 1B) has not received much support. Numerous site visits and site analysis of the northwest corner (Option 1A) have revealed that this area of the park is an appropriate location for the unmodified monument to be situated. A photo manipulation has been completed showing the statue at this location, which is attached.

If Option 1B is approved by the Board, the private sector will launch their fund raising campaign for the statue's move, site work and other site improvements.

BUDGET IMPACT: None recommended as private contributions are indicated to fund this project.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Board is requested to support Option 1B and direct the Clerk to establish a separate fund for acceptance of donations for relocation expenses.



THE SOUTH REVERES
HER WASHINGTON,
JEFFERSON, MADISON,
MONROE, ANDREW JACKSON
AND OTHERS, WHO LAY
THE FOUNDATIONS OF
OUR GRAND REPUBLIC.
SHE HONORS HER LEE,
BURNHAM, JACKSON,
POLK, MONROE, BUCHANAN,
AND EVERY BRAVE SON
WHO FOUGHT TO PRESERVE
OUR LIBERTIES,
AND MAINTAINED THE UNION,
UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.

CONFEDERATE

ERECTED BY THE
CONFEDERATE MONUMENT SOCIETY
IN HONOR OF
THE HEROES OF THE
CONFEDERATE CAUSE



Confederate Soldier Monument Veterans Memorial Park



Marion County
 Board of County Commissioners
 Parks & Recreation Department
 111 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471
 (352) 671-8560 phone
 (352) 671-8560 fax

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