

From: PeteD3 <peteclarked3@gmail.com>
Date: February 27, 2022 at 6:52:48 PM EST
To: mayor@ocfl.net
Cc: Lee Chotas <lchotas@gmail.com>
Subject: Holden Ave.docx

February 27, 2022

Mayor Demings,

I hope this finds you and your family doing well,

I'm writing to add some background to the current discussion about Cypress Grove Park and a potential realignment of the Holden-Orange-Gatlin intersections. As you may know, I led the effort of Orange County's purchase of 9.66 acres in Edgewood off Jamaica Lane to be added to Cypress Grove Park. I had many discussions with Edgewood leaders and with county staff. My goal in purchasing this property was obviously to increase the size of Cypress Grove Park. But I also agreed and stated publicly that I would support cutting the corner of the park should there be an opportunity in the future for a realignment of Holden with Gatlin. That realignment has been discussed and was even approved by Orange County back in 1988.

My understanding from a recent Orange County study is that a realignment of Holden would need approximately 4 acres of the northeast corner of the park. With the recent addition of the 9.66 acres now added to the southeast section of the park, that is more than sufficient for mitigation. I believe this is a compromise that still increases the park size by nearly six acres and also addresses a long-term traffic issue that has plagued this area for decades.

I hope this information helps in your decision-making.

Sincerely,

Pete Clarke
Former Orange County Commissioner