

| A. Section to be completed by Commission District | |
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| 1. | Commission District(s) represented in this request: 2 |
| 2. | ARP Funding Allocation (include amount to be allocated by each district): \$50,000 |
| 3. | Proposed Services: Stormwater Management project at Oakhurst Garden |
| 4. | Proposed Vendor: Wylde Center |
| 5. | Vendor Contact Info: Name of Main POC: Jennifer Gerndt, Ph.D. Title: Executive Director Address: 435 Oakview Road Decatur, GA 30030 Phone Number: 404-371-1920 Email Address: jennifer@wyldecenter.org |
| 6. | Contract Start Date: TBD |
| 7. | Contract End Date: TBD |
| 8. | Scope of Work: See attached |
| | BOC Approval (if already approved): Attach Agenda Item or provide... Approval Date: Agenda Item Number: *Walk-On/Substitute Agenda Items must be attached. |
| B. Section to be completed by Working Group | |
| 1. | Date of Receipt of all necessary items to start process: |
| 2. | Dates of Approval: |
| a. | CPO |
| | Enter Approved Procurement Method: |
| b. | BOC (if not approved prior to receipt of request) |
| | Enter Agenda Item number: |
| c. | Grants (SOW & Risk Assessment) |
| | Attach Approved Risk Assessment: |
| d. | Law (Contract Draft) |
| | Approved Template: |
| | List of Additional Forms to be completed by vendor (attached as applicable): |
| 3. | Receipt of Fully-Executed Contract: |
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| | |

October 20, 2023

To: DeKalb County Commissioners Larry Johnson, Michelle Long Spears and Ted Terry
From: Stephanie Van Parys, Executive Director, Wylde Center
RE: Stormwater Projects at Wylde Center Gardens

Thank you for considering an investment in Wylde Center's capital campaign, more specifically the stormwater project that will benefit not only our greenspaces but also DeKalb County. During the FY 2022-23 school year, of the 23,672 student interactions we recorded at our gardens, 79% of those students were DeKalb County residents. We are requesting \$510,000 to support improvements at two of our gardens, both located in DeKalb County greenspaces to better manage flooding and standing water as a result of increased stormwater. Our greenspaces play an integral part in helping DeKalb's neighborhoods manage stormwater by reducing runoff in areas affected by localized flooding, preventing water from overflowing pipe connections and pooling in streets or basements. Stormwater management protects our environment; reduces flooding to protect people and property; reduces demand on public stormwater drainage systems; supports healthy streams and rivers; and creates healthier, more sustainable communities. We believe that this project is a fit for the ARPA fund allocations currently available as well as the current DeKalb County operating funds we discussed at our meeting.

Oakhurst Garden, 435 Oakview Dr., Decatur, GA 30030

The project will be focused at the Oakhurst Garden. This 1.3 acre property is situated in the City of Decatur and the site of our main office. This community green space and well-loved educational garden is almost entirely within the floodplain of the Shoal Creek West tributary. Specifically located behind our current home office, the Shoal Creek tributary frequently is inundated after rain events and impacts WC education programs, field trips, operations and special events by causing flooding, standing water, and muddy situations making the areas we need for the programs unusable. Plans have been completed and have entered the permitting process to refurbish much of the site's open space to increase stormwater storage and better manage circulation of the water once collected. In concert with the renovation of the building to better serve as an educational center, the project will upgrade utilities and construct green infrastructure. Features of the green infrastructure include rain gardens, bioretention, and permeable driveway paving, all interconnected with French drains. Existing tree cover and stream buffers will be protected and restored. Sixteen new trees will be planted.

The Oakhurst Garden stormwater project budget:

Stormwater management \$215,000
(1,560 CF additional stormwater storage volume):
2,300 SF rain garden grading/planting
180 CY bioretention pond
1,470 SF pervious paving
580 LF underdrain / conveyance
Site renovation \$118,000
Erosion control
Planting / revegetation
Irrigation / rainwater harvesting system renovation
Accessible pathways
Fences / gates
Total budget for Oakhurst Project \$333,000

The requested stormwater project at the Oakhurst Garden includes: a rain garden; grading and planting; adding a bioretention pond; pervious paving; and underdrain water conveyance that will prevent water from accumulating under the pavement and causing premature subgrade failure. The full cost of this project is estimated to be \$330,000. The project construction will take place January-March 2024.

Project Proposal

The improvements being made at this DeKalb County garden is part of a larger project Wylde Center is currently managing. These efforts fit under the project we have titled the 25th Anniversary Capital Campaign, with the goal of raising \$2.88 million to complete site improvements across four of our DeKalb County locations that include a building renovation, improving access, and implementing measures to better manage stormwater. To date, we have raised 63% of our goal which includes \$500,000 in funding from the Zeist Foundation, \$200,000 from current board and alumni board members, \$25,000 from the Candler Park Neighborhood Association in direct support of the Mulberry Fields improvements and additional gifts totalling \$1,122,412 from other family foundations, individuals and in-kind donations. In addition, we have received support from the City of Decatur (annual) for the past twelve years and have current pledges of support from Atlanta City Council members. The campaign sources report is attached and reflects the full list of income sources from funders.

Thank you again for this opportunity to submit our request. We welcome DeKalb County's support of the campaign at any level and hope that you will consider making a major investment in the project to support this stormwater construction project. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email at stephanie@wyldecenter.org or by phone at 678-642-4977 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best regards,
Stephanie Van Parys
Executive Director

Attachments

- A. Case Statement
- B. Project development plans (stormwater project design)
- C. List of supporters to date
- D. Wylde Center Information
- E. Naming Opportunities

WYLDE CENTER ■ 435 OAKVIEW ROAD DECATUR, GA 30030 ■ WYLDECENTER.ORG ■
404-371-1920