

Florida Communities Trust Quarterly Meeting Revised Agenda

Date: December 10, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Department of Environmental Protection
Douglas Building, Conference Room Number 137
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399

Virtual: Go-To-Webinar Link:
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7010536065436407897>
Webinar ID Number: 857-478-915

ITEM 1: Opening

- A. Roll Call/Establish Quorum**
- B. Call to Order**

ITEM 2: Announcements

ITEM 3: Consider the August 13, 2025, Meeting Summary

ITEM 4: Consider the Upcoming Calendar Year 2026 FCT Board Meeting Dates

ITEM 5: Discuss Proposal to Initiate Rulemaking

ITEM 6: Discuss Proposed Revisions to the Delegations of Authority from the FCT Governing Board to the Chair and FCT Staff

ITEM 7: Present the FCT Fiscal Year Report for 2024-2025

ITEM 8: Presentations/Acknowledgements/Closing Comments

Adjourn

ITEM 1: Opening

- a. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
- b. Call to Order

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will begin the meeting with a Call to Order. Members of the Board will participate in a roll call. FCT Staff and other Division of State Lands personnel will be acknowledged for their presence in attendance and participation in today's meeting.

FCT Board Members:

Deborah Denys (Former elected official of a county government)

Frank Mingo (Former elected official of a metropolitan municipal government)

Noah Valenstein (Representative of a nonprofit organization)

Bryan Bradner (Chair, FCT Governing Board)

ITEM 2: Announcements

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will ask for any announcements to be made by Board members.

A. Introduction of new Division Leadership and FCT staff

1. Bradley Perry, Director, Division of State Lands
2. Karen Williams McKinney, Deputy Director, Division of State Lands
3. Ruth-Ann Creary, Planner for Region III

Parks and Open Space Grant Cycle 2025-2026

Application Deadline: January 19, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Contact your regional planner for more information.

ITEM 3: Consider the August 13, 2025, Meeting Summary

The FCT Governing Board will vote on the August 13, 2025, Meeting Summary.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the August 13, 2025, Meeting Summary.

FCT Governing Board Action: Motion and Vote

Motion by: _____

Second by: _____

- ☐ **APPROVE**
- ☐ **APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**
- ☐ **DEFER**
- ☐ **WITHDRAW**
- ☐ **NOT APPROVE**
- ☐ **OTHER:**

ITEM 4: Consider the Upcoming Calendar Year 2026 FCT Board Meeting Dates

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will announce the proposed calendar year 2026 meeting dates.

Calendar Year 2026 Meeting Dates:

- February 11, 2026
- May 13, 2026
- August 12, 2026
- December 9, 2026

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the proposed FCT Board Meeting calendar dates.

FCT Governing Board Action: Motion and Vote

Motion by: _____

Second by: _____

- ☐ **APPROVE**
- ☐ **APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**
- ☐ **DEFER**
- ☐ **WITHDRAW**
- ☐ **NOT APPROVE**
- ☐ **OTHER:**

ITEM 5: Discuss Proposal to Initiate Rulemaking

Staff Remarks:

The 2025 Legislature required all agencies to implement a review of 20 percent of all rules existing prior to July 1, 2025, annually over the span of five years. Florida Communities Trust has 94 rules meeting the requirement for review. FCT Staff reviewed the entirety of Rules 62-815 and 62-816, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), consisting of 27 rules.

Rule 62-815, F.A.C., sets forth application procedures for the Preservation 2000 (P2000) program and Rule 62-816, F.A.C., sets forth application procedures for acquisition of projects under the Area of Critical State Concern Program. Both programs have been replaced by the Florida Forever Program. Rule language for the P2000 program allows for annual and five-year stewardship reporting. Rule language for the Area of Critical State Concern program provides for annual reporting. Staff recommends retaining the annual reporting requirement for the Area of Critical State Concern as this reference is included in the recorded Grant Award Agreements.

FCT staff recommends repealing Chapter 62-815, F.A.C., with the exception of Rule 62-815.013, F.A.C., (the “Annual Stewardship Report Requirement”). That rule requires the following modifications to retain the annual and five-year reporting requirement:

- Update the History notes to delete the repealed statutory provisions.

FCT staff recommends repealing Chapter 62-816, F.A.C., with the exception of Rule 62-816.015, F.A.C., (the “Annual Stewardship Report”). That rule requires the following modifications to maintain the annual report:

- Delete references to other paragraphs in Chapter 62-816, F.A.C., that are being repealed; and
- Update the History notes to delete the repealed statutory provisions.

Staff does not anticipate that the proposed repeal would result in public controversy.

ITEM 6: Discuss Proposed Revisions to the Delegations of Authority from the FCT Governing Board to the Chair and FCT Staff

Staff Remarks:

The FCT Governing Board and Staff are currently operating under Delegations of Authority that were last approved by the Board March 7, 2023. Staff recommends adding the following delegations to allow the Chair and FCT Staff to execute and file documents associated with rulemaking:

- I.D. For existing rules reviewed in accordance with section 120.5435, Florida Statutes (F.S.), to initiate and conduct rulemaking pursuant to section 120.54, F.S., to update forms and make technical changes identified in such review. The Chair may execute all documents associated with the rulemaking process, including those referenced in sections 120.54 and 120.695, F.S.
- III.G. To review existing rules in accordance with section 120.5435, F.S., and submit reports; to prepare and file all required documents for rulemaking with the Florida Department of State, including publishing notices in the Florida Administrative Register and filing all necessary documentation with the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee and the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform.

All other Delegations of Authority will remain as previously approved.

ITEM 7: Present the FCT Fiscal Year Report for 2024-2025

Staff Remarks:

Florida Communities Trust (FCT), created by Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, is a state funded land acquisition program that assists communities in protecting natural resources and providing recreational opportunities through the Parks and Open Space Grant Program. Through competitive application process, these programs provide funding to local governments and eligible nonprofit organizations to acquire land for parks, open spaces and greenways.

FCT's Park and Open Space Program assists communities with challenges of growth, supports community development and protects natural resources. Projects funded under this program meet one or more of the following objectives to implement local government comprehensive plans. They include conservation lands, urban open spaces, public parks and greenways. After a project is acquired, FCT stewardship continues in perpetuity through a formal agreement to provide guidance on park development and management oversight.

During this reporting year, FCT staff reviewed 12 project applications for funding under the Parks and Open Space Program. Utilizing Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 funding, 11 projects were recommended for funding approval and one project withdrew. Once completed, these 11 projects will provide more than 276 acres for conservation and outdoor recreation.

Three projects closed during FY 2024-2025:

- The City of Coconut Creek for the acquisition of the Oaks Trails Park Expansion in Broward County.
- The City of Parkland for the acquisition of Wedge Preserve Park in Broward County.
- The City of Treasure Island for the acquisition of the Isle of Palms Park in Pinellas County.

ITEM 8: Presentations/Acknowledgments/Closing Comments

Presentations by representatives from each of the three closed projects:

1. The City of Coconut Creek, Oaks Trails Park Expansion
Daniel Nelson
Grant Administrator
Broward County
2. The City of Parkland, Wedge Preserve Park
Sherri Toops
Budget and Grants Manager
Broward County
3. The City of Treasure Island, Isle of Palms Park
Cathy Hayduke
Parks and Recreation Director
Pinellas County

Acknowledge representatives and thank them for their time.

The FCT Governing Board will hear closing comments from Board members.

Adjourn