

**From:** [Patty Huffman](#)  
**To:** [tthigpen@gautier-ms.gov](mailto:tthigpen@gautier-ms.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: Tidelands/Town Green status  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 28, 2012 12:47:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Summary of Open Tidelands Projects.doc](#)  
[Agenda Request-Tidelands.doc](#)  
[Council memo regarding Tidelands reallocation request.doc](#)

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Tricia,

Please include the memo below sent by Samantha to City Council, the attached Summary of Tidelands Projects, and the attached memo regarding the reallocation request in next week's agenda. I've attached an agenda request as well. Thanks for your help with this.

Patty

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**From:** Samantha Abell [mailto:[sabell@gautier-ms.gov](mailto:sabell@gautier-ms.gov)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2012 6:55 PM  
**To:** 'adamcolledge@aol.com'; 'robertgramsay@bellsouth.net'; 'jffjones1@cableone.net'; 'gollottd@bellsouth.net'; 'tfortenberry@hotmail.com'; 'marymartincouncilwomanatlarge@yahoo.com'; 'sdmacfarland@peoplepc.com'  
**Subject:** RE: Tidelands/Town Green status

Councilman Colledge,

I think Council would best be served by a presentation regarding Tidelands funds, where you could set clear goals and gain a consensus. Right now, Staff is hearing lots of input but not all projects qualify for Tidelands. To clear up my email below to Bob, I've attached a spreadsheet that details the projects that combine to make the \$208,000 of remaining funds from years past, and the \$250,000 of new funds awarded last week. We have been awarded all funds to purchase the land, but not all funds have yet been re-designated to this project. As you heard last summer from the CIAP and Tidelands consultants, there is no conceivable risk that our funds will not be re-allocated to the Town Green.

The City has not received a bank loan for land acquisition yet. The closing attorney is still doing the title work, per CIAP requirements. A triangular portion of the 32-acres is needed for constructing the 2-lane traffic roundabout and so, we are staying ontop of this process, hoping to close on the land mid February. It is very likely that we will receive the CIAP and Tidelands funding and very soon after pay off the loan.

Michelle Coats with the County states we should receive word on the re-allocation of the \$777,000 in the next 3 weeks.

Staff has met with DMR Staff regarding conceptual pre-approval for re-allocating funds to the 32-acre Town Green. We've been told that we will hear official approval within 6 weeks of receiving all our re-allocation paperwork. Thus far, we've submitted to re-allocate \$100,000 of the \$208,000 approved by Council. Patty is working on submitting the remaining \$108,000 this week (the process also entails closing out old projects and submitting past-due progress reports). The request to re-allocate the awarded \$250,000 will be on Council's next agenda for approval.

I offer the following comments, for what they're worth:

- City Park is a recreational waterfront park serving residents of eastern Jackson County. It's extremely unlikely the park will spur new private development in the City due to its isolated location and passive nature. The park is intended to serve residents and nearby visitors.
- City Park has a major mosquito and biting nat problem that deters visitors. Priority needs to be given to clearing underbrush around mature trees on the undeveloped portions of the park. Splashpads do not use chlorine, and there will be puddles of standing water. Staff has spent significant hours researching splashpads prior to submitting the splashpad project to DMR last year. However, since submitting the project, the mall owners are now considering such an amenity as part of their mall project. This should be encouraged, and the funding can be re-allocated.
- The Town Green will be an active, tourism-oriented park intended as an amenity for nearby commercial development to draw tourists from inside and outside Jackson County. Tidelands funds will be part of a "match" for other funds to develop the park. The Town Green is a priority in part, because it is intended to spur surrounding private development.
- Frazier Park qualifies for MDA grant money and other park grants. To date, Staff has not been directed by Council or the City Manager to pursue any funds for this park. Direction is needed.
- Gautier Pride and World Changers are looking to develop a children's pocket park on Martin Bluff near the firestation. Input appreciated.
- Shepard State Park is a passive, tourist-oriented park. Do we want to revisit options for this park after our next town hall meeting?
- A Parks Master Plan is needed. This is just one of the projects that could be funded with revenue from a 1% tax on prepared restaurant meals.

Please let me know if you have any further questions. Perhaps at a presentation on Tidelands, the attached spreadsheet can be reviewed at length.

Thank you!

Sam

# Summary of Open Tidelands Projects

[Jan 22, 2012]

Original Project Name	Balance Remaining	Status	Action	Objective
<b>FY2006</b> City Park Community Ctr. Phase II	\$33,712.96	Project completed.	Will submit Notice of Completion. Will request reallocation of balance to FY2010 project for City Park Community Ctr. Phase III.	City Park restroom project completed as part of City Park Master Plan.  Remaining funds to be used for acquisition of property along Mary Walker Bayou (32-acre Town Green).
<b>FY2008</b> City Park Nature Center	\$75,000.00	No funds spent to-date.	Will request reallocation of full amount to FY2010 project	Acquisition of property along Mary Walker Bayou (32-acre Town Green).
<b>FY2010</b> City Park Community Ctr. Phase III ***	\$50,000.00	No funds spent to-date.	This project will serve as the basis for ongoing work at City Park and Town Center	Acquisition of property along Mary Walker Bayou (32-acre Town Green).
<b>FY2010</b> North Gautier Recreational Boat Access	\$50,000.00	No funds spent to-date.	Will request reallocation of full amount to FY2010 project	Acquisition of property along Mary Walker Bayou (32-acre Town Green).
<b>Unspent TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$208,712.96</b>			Council has approved the re-allocation of the unspent total for the Town Green
<b>FY2012</b> City Park Master Design Plan Phase IV	\$250,000.00	Awarded 01-12-12	Will request reallocation of full amount to FY2010 project. Pre-approval given.  Original request: Demo and rebuild City Park Restrooms by docks.	City Park: repaint existing dock BA w/ minor fixture upgrades)  Town Green: \$215,000 for restoring tributaries/boardwalks, \$15,000 for land acquisition, \$20,000 for Town Green design & construction plans

# Summary of Open Tidelands Projects

**[Jan 22, 2012]**

<b>FY2013</b> Gautier City Park Phase IV Splash Park		Requested \$250,000.00. Award TBD in March 2012	Will request reallocation of \$200,000 once awarded to FY2010 project	City Park: \$50,000 walking trails/ botanicals  Town Green: \$200,000 Festival lawn, amphitheatre, & boardwalks
<b>FY2014</b> _____		Application due by 07/01/12		

\*\*\*The expanded FY2010 City Park Project will serve as the basis for all ongoing projects focusing on City Park and Town Green amenities due to the fact that projects are located along Mary Walker Bayou.

Note: The Town Center land acquisition cost of \$1 million will be funded with \$777,000 from CIAP funds, the \$208,712.96 in unspent prior year Tidelands funds, and approximately \$15,000 from current FY2012 funds.