

**From:** John Ramos [mailto:jramos@shiningreputation.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 13, 2015 8:55 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Pontliana Woods

Councilors,

With regard to your resolution asking the county to remove the parcel on Park Point from their October land sale, I think that the resolution will be futile unless the city or some other group comes up with a more concrete plan for the land than simply asking the county to remove it.

In May, county commissioners spent nearly four hours discussing the land sale resolution. The discussion was heated and emotional, and the Pontliana Woods parcel came perilously close to being included in the June land sale. It was only moved to October when Commissioner Keith Nelson extracted promises from Commissioners Rukavina and Jewell that if nobody came forward with a "DEFINITIVE PLAN" (Nelson's emphasis) for the land by October, it would be put on the auction block. Rukavina and Jewell both agreed to this. It was my sense that "definitive plan" meant that somebody would actually have money in hand, or at least the promise of money, with which to purchase the land. If the only plan is asking the county to remove the land from auction, I do not think that will be good enough. The county wants to divest itself of the land, one way or another, rather than continue to hold it in conservation.

That is my sense of the situation. I would suggest that anyone who wants to see the Pontliana Woods parcel preserved adopt a greater sense of urgency with regard to the issue. In politics, things can always change, but I would be surprised if things have changed so much in five months that the county board would consider such a vague plan as is laid out in the council resolution to be persuasive.

Sincerely,

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