

## Palm Bay paves way for road

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PALM BAY -- Palm Bay council members tonight will consider nearly \$53,000 for designs and agreements needed to drain the city's portion of the proposed Palm Bay Parkway.

The parkway would stretch eight miles between Ellis Road in West Melbourne to Malabar Road in Palm Bay. Efforts for state funding have fallen through, and there is no money available for the parkway.

City officials, using \$53,000 worth of Palm Bay transportation impact fees, want to connect the parkway from Malabar Road south and then east to a site proposed as another Interstate 95 connection.

As a first step, City Manager Lee Feldman is asking to hire Post, Buckley, Shuh & Jernigan to work with developers and private property owners in the area between Malabar Road and J.A. Bombarier Boulevard.

"BRP US Inc. (formerly Bombardier Motor Corporation of America) staff has expressed an interest in combining and deepening the lakes on their property, which could provide capacity for either stormwater management or flood plain management relating to the parkway," Feldman said.

He said the excavation of the lakes also could provide fill needed for the parkway, and the contract asks engineers to determine how much fill might be available. He said similar shared stormwater ponds are being considered at the Chapparral development, a planned subdivision in southeast Palm Bay.

Part of the city's contract calls for PBSJ to also work with the St. Johns River Water Management District.

If the council approves the proposal, the contract calls for the work to be completed by the end of August.

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If you go

The Palm Bay City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in council chambers of city hall, 120 Malabar Road, Palm Bay. Also on the agenda is the acceptance of a site adjacent to DeGroot Road from Town Center Partners to be used as a fire station.

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