

Citizen Comments for the June 08, 2021 Meeting Agenda

The following Citizen Comments were received for
Non-Agendaed Item

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Beth Babcock
Lobbyist: No	Address: 5635 Jacksons Gap Road
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 6:34:00 PM

This is a request for Leon County Commissioners to publicly support the national "For The People Act" - HR 1. Leon County is a model for fair, accessible elections and should advocate for the same across our country. All Americans deserve the voting protections provided in HR 1. Thank you!

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Norine Cardea
Lobbyist: No	Address: 2127 Atchena Nene
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:42:00 PM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U. S. elections, must stand in support for counties across the U.S. which minimize voter access. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which enabling voters to choose politicians. The bill may not be perfect. We are not perfect. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R. 1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Ruth Chase
Lobbyist: No	Address: 9540 Oak Hollow Trl.
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 2:23:00 PM

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Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Ann Dunan
Lobbyist: No	Address: 9524 Oak Hollow Trl
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 4:06:00 PM

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Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: spike gram
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1273 Indian Hills Rd Monticello FL
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 5:37:00 PM

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Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Cheryl Gratt
Lobbyist: No	Address: 9086 Veterans Memorial Drive
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 8:09:00 PM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U. S. elections, must stand in support for counties across the U.S. which minimize voter access. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which enabling voters to choose politicians. The bill may not be perfect. We are not perfect. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R. 1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Doug Hahn
Lobbyist: No	Address: 2076 West Forest drive, Tallahassee, FI 32303
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:12:00 PM

I unambiguously support the HB 1 "For the People Act" before the US Senate.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Elizabeth Hines
Lobbyist: No	Address: 3915 Runnymede Rd
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:16:00 PM

"This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U. S. elections, must stand in support for counties across the U.S. which minimize voter access. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which enabling voters to choose politicians. The bill may not be perfect. At this time, It is the needed step to improve voter access in our Nation. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R. 1."

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Michael Hussey
Lobbyist: No	Address: 9601 Miccosukee Road, MLC-45
	Date Submitted: 6/8/2021 7:24:00 AM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U. S. elections, must stand in support for counties across the U.S. which minimize voter access. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which enabling voters to choose politicians. The bill may not be perfect. At this time, It is the needed step to improve voter access in our Nation. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R. 1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Francoise King
Lobbyist: No	Address: 5249 High Colony Dr
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:39:00 PM

I would like to ask that the County Commission publicly resolve to support the "For The People Act" HR-1 that the US Senate will be voting on it soon. Most Americans (regardless of party) want free and fair elections.

HR-1 will help preserve our democracy by helping to insure clean elections, maximize voter access, end "dark money" and gerrymandering.

I am afraid that the future of our democracy could depend on HR-1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Michael King
Lobbyist: No	Address: 5249 High Colony Dr
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:34:00 PM

I would like to ask that the County Commission publicly resolve to support the national "For The People Act." The US Senate will be voting on it soon and most Americans want free and fair elections - regardless of party.

HR-1 is a model for how we can have clean elections, maximize voter access, end "dark money" and gerrymandering. Our democracy depends on HR-1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Susan McLeod
Lobbyist: No	Address: 801 Chestwood Ave
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 7:26:00 PM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County is a model for U. S. elections and we must stand in support for counties across the U.S. H.R.1 would not allow further hinderance of voter access. H.R.1 would end "dark money." H.R.1 would minimize gerrymandering, no longer enabling politicians to choose voters, instead of vice versa. The bill may not be perfect. We are not perfect. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R.1. Send our Senators a message today by passing a resolution in support of H.R.1.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Bernadettee Mueller
Lobbyist: No	Address: 3714 Glin Circle
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 4:56:00 PM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U.S. elections, must stand in support of counties across the U.S. whose political franchises are under siege. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which will enable voters to choose the politicians that run in their elections. Please support H.R. 1. It's the right thing to do.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non-Agendaed Item	Name: Sandra Robinson
Lobbyist: No	Address: 145 Meridian Hills Road
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 4:02:00 PM

This is a request that the Leon County Commission resolve to publicly support the national "For The People Act," H.R. 1, which is due for a vote in the U.S. Senate. For years and decades Leon County has enjoyed free, fair, accessible elections, early voting, extended hours AND the ability to forensically audit the results. Leon County, a model for U.S. elections, must stand in support for counties across the U.S. which minimize voter access. H.R. 1 would end "dark money." H.R. 1 would minimize gerrymandering which enable voters to choose politicians. The bill may not be perfect. We are not perfect. We still deserve the "best practices" on offer in H.R. 1.

The following Citizen Comments were received for
Item 11 - Approval of the Plat for Green Acres at Pedrick Subdivision

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 11 - Approval of the Plat for Green Acres at Pedrick Subdivision	Name: Carmen Greene
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1150 E TENNESSEE ST
	Date Submitted: 6/8/2021 2:03:00 PM

Magnolia Engineering is representing the Owner for this item. I am available to answer any questions. Thank you.

The following Citizen Comments were received for

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency`s Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Steven Dollar
Lobbyist: No	Address: 3003 Ingress Rd
	Date Submitted: 6/8/2021 10:27:00 AM

To the commissioners: I urge the commission to give its enthusiastic support to plans for TLH Arts performing arts center/black box theater. The venue promises to be a great and much-needed resource for multiple Tallahassee arts organizations across disciplines and ambitions. As artistic director of the Tallahassee Film Festival, I can tell you that having a home base, such as the facility proposed, will make a huge difference to our plans for the future. One of the biggest challenges faced by micro-organizations such as ours is infrastructure, which in Tallahassee is wildly inconsistent and unreliable. TLH Arts would certainly help to change that, and its community-centered structure would also do much to bond disparate arts outfits and audiences within the city, county and region, giving rise to a new cultural scene. Thank you for considering a vote for this project.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Max Epstein
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1001 San Luis Rd
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 12:09:00 PM

Commissioners,

You may or may not have read my op-ed about the TDT arts, culture, and heritage process. Please take a look.

<https://www.tallahassee.com/story/opinion/2021/06/05/leon-county-commission-should-veto-cra-flawed-decision-frenchtown-tallahassee-arts-funds/7523195002/>

I'd please ask that you veto the TDT funding until a transparent process is developed and:

- 1) TLH Arts has completed an actual proposal, with numbers, a business plan, community outreach, etc. TDT funding is required to be scrutinized heavily.
- 2) The City locates \$1 million for a Frenchtown cultural art project, which they promised. Is is being brought back in July. But the real answer is -- they might not have the money, it might take years, and it may never happen. More failed promises to Frenchtown.

There is a way for us to complete both projects, with a fair and transparent, equitable process.

I will have some more comments at tomorrow's meeting, but this is an opportunity to do a lot of good. Not force people to fight each other when all goals can be accomplished.

With both proposals in hand, with funding sources, community engagement, business plans, ownership structure, etc., in hand (that is supposedly required by the CRA), then the money can be released.

This thing is being approved completely out of order. Had a transparent process been formed in January as requested by everyone involved in this grant process, it would be completed by now, with new scoring, judging, proposals, community engagement, etc.

Sincerely,
Max Epstein

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Krystof Kage
Lobbyist: No	Address: 415 SAINT FRANCIS ST, UNIT 122
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 8:44:00 PM

As the Artistic Director of New Stage Theatreworks, we have been lucky enough to find places to perform throughout the city. We don't have a home, though, and that means we are forced to rent spaces (and can often get stuck in a bad part of the calendar or without a large enough space to cover our expenses). Like many other local theatre groups, we are "homeless".

We are excited for this venture that will give us the ability to have a stage that meets the needs for our type of shows. NST is one of the few homeless groups to produce professional-level modern musicals - so even our choices for rental space are already limited. With our productions bringing in many from outside the city ("In the Heights", alone, brought in large numbers from out of town and even some from out of the country), it is only fitting that the original intention of the hotel bed tax will be used for the performing arts.

Tallahassee has a vibrant and vast performing arts community, and we know that the TLHArts project will not only allow our homeless theatre groups to have flexibility in scheduling and show size, but also bring in performers and audiences from outside of our community. This is certainly a winning formula for Tallahassee and I truly believe that your support for the TLHArts project will plant a firm flag in the ground that says that Leon County is an arts destination worthy of the jealousy it already enjoys.

Thank you for your consideration on the matter and for your continued support for the arts.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Donna Marie Nudd
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1402 South Meridian Street
	Date Submitted: 6/8/2021 9:00:00 AM

I am in strong support of the TLH Arts proposal for a performing arts venue in Railroad Square.

I'm the Executive Director of the Mickee Faust Club, also located in Railroad Square.

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency`s Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Betty Proctor
Lobbyist: No	Address: 681 McDonnell Drive
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 10:57:00 PM

I have been a tenant at Railroad Square for 3 years. The Performing Arts Center and other projects will be a significant addition to Railroad Square and the tenants. Thank you for your consideration.

Betty

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Jim Russell
Lobbyist: No	Address: 714 Riggins Road Tallahassee FL 32308
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 8:25:00 PM

Hello City Commission Members,

I am writing in support of the development and construction of the Tallahassee Performing Arts Center in the Railroad Square Art Park. Tallahassee is a hub of creativity and development of the arts, and this particular project can only serve to enhance Tallahassee as a year-round tourist destination which in turn will support local small businesses. The arts are also a great quality of life improvement for our city and add a healthy and positive venue to our community. Please support this initiative.

Respectfully and with gratitude,

Jim Russell

Owner: Jim Russell Art, LLC, Tallahassee
FSU Deputy Chief of Police (retired)

Board of County Commissioners, June 08, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 25 - Approval of the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency's Recommendation to Award Arts, Cultural and Heritage Grant Program Funds for the Revised TLH Arts, Inc. "Performance and Rehearsal Space" Project in Railroad Square	Name: Teddy Tollett
Lobbyist: No	Address: 215 W College Ave
	Date Submitted: 6/7/2021 8:43:00 PM

I am writing to enthusiastically support the decision to allocate the full amount of funding to this project. I operated a business on the south side for many years. This area will benefit significantly from the project, and that benefit will continue for many years.

With the generous property donation from the owners of the Railroad Square Art Park, the potential for these funds to benefit the arts community is significantly enhanced.

As president of the boards for two major nonprofits in the area, I very much support allocation of all remaining funds to the performing arts center, which has considerable support in our part of town and in the community at large.