

950 N.W. 38th St. • Oakland Park, FL 33309-5982 • 954-357-8110 BrowardParksFoundation.org

November 18, 2020

Dan West, Director Broward County Parks and Recreation 950 NW 38th Street Oakland Park, FL 33309

Re: Kristin Jacobs Natural Area

Dear Mr. West,

The Parks Foundation of Broward County is pleased to request that Broward County Parks and Recreation present a formal request to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners to rename Hillsboro Pineland Natural Area, located in the City of Coconut Creek at 5991 NW 74th Place, to Kristin Jacobs Natural Area to honor the memory and service of former County Commissioner and State Representative, Kristin Jacobs.

During her 16 years of service on the Broward County Commission, Kristin was well-recognized for her passion and advocacy in the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the natural environment. Just two years into her tenure as County Commissioner, she supported the 2000 Safe Parks and Land Preservation Bond Program, the \$400 million bond issue approved by voters in November 2000. Through this program, the County successfully acquired more than 1,100 acres of conservation lands, green spaces, and open spaces. Broward County Parks and Recreation was able to add 153.87 acres of preserved natural areas, including the 11.68-acre Hillsboro Pineland Addition. Always a staunch ally of Broward County Parks, Kristin was instrumental in securing Deeds of Restrictive Covenants over each Broward County Park property, establishing protection so they could be used only for park purposes.

In 2003, she led the creation of NatureScape Broward, which resulted in more than 3,000 NatureScape certified landscapes across Broward County and certification of the County and 15 municipalities as Community Wildlife Habitats by the National Wildlife Federation. She served as chair of the Broward County Water Advisory Board and oversaw the successful rehydration of the wetland at the center of Hillsboro Pineland and supported nearly a dozen similar wetland rehydration projects in the northern part of the County. She also led efforts to advance a much larger, multi-jurisdictional water resource development project, the C-51 Reservoir, a regional alternative water supply project that is now coming to fruition nearly 15 years later. Kristin also served as Chair of the Broward Water Resources Task Force and helped to launch the Broward Leaders Water Academy which has become a state model for engaging decision makers in science-based decision making. In 2009, she led the development of the four-county Southeast

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Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, a model for collaboration and joint action among local governments in addressing the shared challenges that climate change presents for our entire region and across the state.

The environmental initiatives that Kristin led during her many years of public service created lasting positive impacts for all of Broward County. We wish to recognize Kristin's legacy with the renaming of one of Broward's most unique and prized natural areas on her behalf. Dedication of this unique pineland and rich natural area would provide prominent and lasting recognition of Kristin's environmental leadership on behalf of the residents of Broward County. This site is considered particularly fitting given that many of the natural area's features are emblematic of the specific programs and principles for which Kristin was a recognized champion. Those features include nature trails, bicycle paths, and rich native vegetation that serves as host plants for diverse species of native butterflies and habitat for local and migratory wildlife, qualities that provide a natural tribute to the memory and service of Kristin Jacobs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Teri Goldsmith

Chair, Parks Foundation of Broward County

Sheila Rose

Vice Chair, Parks Foundation of Broward County