

From: Jim Hudson [mailto:jimehudson@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 10:13 AM
To: Comish
Subject: [Comish] SP DIST A-61 MSTU TAX

Dear Commissioners:

As you may be aware a number of concerned citizens of Hutchinson Island formed a volunteer coalition of members this spring. This group consists of homeowners, organizations and businesses.

The Coalition is interested in making Hutchinson Island in Martin County one of the most beautiful islands in Florida. We have several projects that are beautification items (such as, plantings like Hibiscus, Oleanders and Ornamental palms along A1A) and better signage welcoming Martin County residents and visitors to the island and then there are safety issues like crosswalks with colored-stamped asphalt that would allow residents to cross A1A without fear of getting run over by the high-speed traffic that is constantly going down A1A, better lighting and fixing damaged sidewalks. These are just an example of items that are on our project list.

We also know that it is difficult in an economy such as ours for the county to bear the entire burden of such projects - especially those that are of esthetic in nature. We also know that, even though the entire county would benefit from these enhancements, that the property owners of the island have a bigger stake in seeing that these beautification and safety enhancements are completed. Thus, in order for the entire population of the island to participate in these enhancements, the Coalition has recommended an increase (double what is currently .1118 millage rate) in our SP Dist A-61 MSTU in order to facilitate starting/completing these projects. This increase would be for a 5-year period and would be used only for county-approved Coalition projects.

I know it is unusual that citizens would ask for an increase in their taxes, but we feel that it is not such a huge increase that it would be a burden to people and that these projects are important enough to us and Martin County that we are willing to take the first step to ensure that something gets done.

I will be in Kentucky during your budgeting meetings, but if I could provide any further information, please let me know. It was just a short time ago that we were made aware that the budgeting process was going to start and we have sent a communication out to the Coalition and to reach as many residents as possible, hopefully you will hear from some of them as well.

As a homeowner and a Coalition member, I am in favor of a 5-year increase of this MSTU tax and would like to see it incorporated in the 2012 taxes so that we can immediately begin our projects.

Thanks for your vote to increase the SP Dist A-61 MSTU tax.

Jim Hudson

Subject: FW: [Comish] SP DIST A-61 MSTU TAX
Date: Tue, 5 Jul 2011 13:16:07 -0400
From: tkryzda@martin.fl.us
To: jimehudson@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Hudson,

If we were to double your millage rate for the FY12 budget, based upon the taxable value for the Hutchinson Island MSTU, it would generate \$271,600. With the decline in the property values – having an established millage rate will reduce the amount of monies to be collected. If you establish a dollar amount – we can set the millage to collect the same amount each year – if the \$271K is sufficient – we may be all right – but it could be less than that next year if the property values decline again. Just let me know how you wish to proceed – thank you.

Taryn Kryzda, CPM

County Administrator

Martin County Board of County Commissioners

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Subject: RE: [Comish] SP DIST A-61 MSTU TAX

From **Jim Hudson <jimehudson@hotmail.com>**

To **Taryn Kryzda <tkryzda@martin.fl.us>**

Date **2011-07-05 14:04**

Message Body

Dear Taryn,

Thanks for your email. I appreciate the information. After talking to Doug last week he told us that we currently collect about \$153,000 for the Hutchinson Island MSTU for the beach projects. We were thinking that if we collected about \$150,000 to \$200,000 per year for the next five years for the OTHER Hutchinson Island projects, that it could get a lot of things done on the island that needs to be done.

I'm assuming that the \$271,600 is what would be collected for the beaches (currently collected) and other projects. If this is an incorrect assumption, please let me know. However, I don't think the residents would tolerate more than doubling the MSTU, so whatever that collects, we will have to live within that budget.

Thanks,
Jim