

EAST LAKE YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATION (ELYSA) PROJECT SUMMARY

- ELYSA provides baseball, football, cheerleading, softball and soccer programs for over 2,000 youth, ages 5-19 years, in the East Lake area.
- In 1984 Pinellas County sold approximately 27 acres of property off Old Keystone Road to the Upper Pinellas Youth Sports Association.
- In February 2003, Pinellas County and East Lake Youth Sports Association, Inc. (formerly Upper Pinellas Youth Sports Association) entered into a 30-year Recreation License Agreement, whereby the County granted ELYSA permission to use 38.47 acres of vacant land located at the well fields in North Pinellas County, adjacent to the existing ELYSA recreation fields. According to the agreement the land is to be used for recreational use and ELYSA is required to get all the necessary permits required for ball fields including a Special Exception, if required.
- In November 2003, ELYSA submitted a 2004 Recreation grant application to the Pinellas County Parks and Recreation Department requesting \$2,058,500 in FY2004 and \$811,000 in FY2005 for improvements to the lease property. Pinellas County approved a recreational grant for \$220,000 for FY2004, \$237,500 for FY2005, and \$250,000 for FY2006.
- According to the project description the grant would be an expansion of their existing youth sports complex. ELYSA intended to add three football/soccer fields, two baseball/softball fields and support facilities. They expect the fields to allow 1,500 more youth to participate in their recreation programs. The support facilities included field lighting, irrigation, restrooms, concessions and maintenance buildings, ingress/egress road and parking, sidewalks, benches, fences, etc.
- The 2004 ELYSA grant application received written support from the following organizations: East Lake High School, Brooker Creek Elementary School, Cypress Woods Elementary School, Rotary Club of Oldsmar/East Lake, East Lake 20/20 civic association, and signed petitions of approximately 400 citizens in northern Pinellas County.
- ELYSA and their engineering consultants have prepared a site plan for the recreational development of the site. The jurisdictional wetland line has been identified and accepted by SWFWMD. The SWFWMD permit was submitted to SWFWMD October 5, 2006. Construction documents are underway. Due to the size of the designated wetland, the number of recreational fields was reduced to two baseball and two multi-purpose fields with associated infrastructure. Approximately 380 parking spaces are shown on the site plan. The site plan was submitted to Pinellas County Development Review Services November 7, 2006.