BRIAN J. MAST 21st District, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0918

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August 26, 2024

The Honorable Shawn Hamilton Secretary Florida Department of Environmental Protection 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 144 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Secretary Hamilton,

I am writing to invite you to come to Stuart tomorrow to hear from our community about the proposal to alter large portions of Jonathan Dickinson State Park.

I and nearly every member of our community is overwhelmingly opposed to building golf courses on this public land. While your agency has postponed meetings originally scheduled for August 27, 2024, to hear from us, our community will nonetheless be gathering tomorrow to voice our frustration with the lack of communication from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

I urge you to attend and level with the people of this community about whose idea this proposal was and where it stands currently. If you cannot attend, I urge you to make someone from your office available to attend on your behalf who can provide further information.

Specifically, given that one of the organizations linked to the golf course proposal has withdrawn from the project, our community needs answers:

- What is the status of the project now?
- Whose idea was this originally?
- How much staff time and taxpayer money were spent developing this proposal?
- What are the next steps?

Please come tomorrow to answer these questions and hear directly from the people you serve.

Sincerely,

Rep. Brian Mast