

## NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Blueprint 2000 Receives Authorization to Advertise for Construction Services for Capital Cascade Trail – Segment 2 (Cascade Park)**

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Tallahassee – On June 17, the Blueprint 2000 Intergovernmental Agency Board provided authorization to advertise for Construction Services for the much anticipated Capital Cascade Trail – Segment 2 (Cascade Park) Project. Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) services will be provided by City of Tallahassee Growth Management Staff and Blueprint 2000 Staff.

Capital Cascade Trail – Segment 2 (Cascade Park) is the centerpiece of the 4.25 mile greenway through the center of Tallahassee. Cascade Park begins at Pensacola Street and extends to the southwest to South Monroe Street. This dual purpose 24-acre downtown park serves as an urban community space and a stormwater management facility. Cascade Park will showcase Tallahassee's natural beauty and cultural history.

Amenities include:

- Bloxham Promenade, 280-foot gateway from Gadsden Street to Meridian Plaza.
- Meridian Plaza and Amphitheater with lawn seating for 4,000.
- Cascade Waterfall symbolizing the “cascading” water that once occupied this site.
- 3,000 sq. ft. community space and restroom facility on Bloxham Promenade.
- Signature Pedestrian Bridges framing the amphitheatre lawn.
- Upper and lower park stormwater ponds with meandering stream.
- 2.3 mile multi-use fitness trail and sidewalk network.

Anticipated Amenities, contingent upon funding, include:

- Meridian Plaza Amphitheatre shade structure.
- Interactive Waterplay Fountain with dancing water, drawing children and parents alike to its graceful cooling waters.
- Centennial Field Commemorative Plaza recognizing the history of this community gathering space as a ballpark.

- Smokey Hollow Plaza with Bronze Relief Map and Misting Fountain identifying the African American Community that existed in this area until the mid-20th Century.
- History Timeline Fence with Interpretative Panels documenting milestones and events in Tallahassee's history.
- Boca Chuba, a community art piece that stands as a guardian fish at the lower pond outfall, waiting to "swallow" the threatening flood waters.

Preconstruction activities which include surveying, soil samples and spot excavation will begin in late July or early August.

Construction of Cascade Park, which incorporates the existing Prime Meridian monument (of Florida) into the Meridian Plaza, is expected to begin with a groundbreaking ceremony on November 16, 2009, 185 years after the first contract to survey for the Prime Meridian. Benjamin Clements of Tennessee, a surveyor of vast experience, was awarded the job on the 16th of November 1824. The work performed by Clements was the beginning line of all property surveyed in the State of Florida. The completion of the Cascade Park project is targeted for early 2011. If you have questions, please contact Blueprint 2000 at 850-701-2740. For details on this and other Blueprint 2000 projects, please visit <http://www.blueprint2000.org>.