

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

VIA: Jesus Merejo, ICMA-CM, City Manager
Teresa Lamar-Sarno, AICP, ICMA-CM, Chief Assistant City Manager

THRU: Mary Savage-Dunham, AICP, CFM, Director of Planning & Zoning *MFSD*

FROM: Bethany Grubbs, AICP, Senior Planner/Public Art Program *BG*

SUBJECT: Request to Relocate Approved Artwork: “Ladybug Hideaway”

DATE: April 24, 2026

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a summary of the request by Midway Glades Developers, LLC, to relocate the artwork *Ladybug Hideaway* by Artist Mark Fuller. The Public Art Advisory Board (PAAB) will consider the request on May 18, 2026, followed by City Council review on June 8, 2026.

Background

The artwork was approved by Council on May 13, 2024, through Resolution 24-R34 as an Alternative Equivalent Proposal under Section 162.08. The original concept consists of twelve sculptural blades incorporating nineteen species of ladybugs, placed within two 5,100-square-foot plazas on the commercial tracts at the intersection of Midway Road and Wylder Parkway. The approved location was intended to create an interactive and educational experience for public with the alternative equivalent proposal with safe pedestrian access and available parking similar to the two other interactive artworks approved under the Alternative Equivalent Proposal, Mattamy’s Heart in the Park and Riverland’s Reflection Garden.

In March 2026, the developer notified staff of their intent to request to relocate the artwork to be located in an open tract along Wylder Parkway with no available public parking. Any change in location requires returning to the PAAB and City Council for approval.

Request

The developer reports that updated commercial access planning shifted vehicular movements and introduced increased traffic conflicts for pedestrians approaching or leaving the artwork. The applicant also notes that commercial out-parcels cannot be relied upon to activate or visually engage the originally approved art plazas. The developer proposes to consolidate the two plazas into a single installation, adjacent to the wetlands (see proposed location exhibit, attached).

The proposed relocation would change how people can interact with the artwork. The original commercial location was meant to be a dedicated public space where anyone could walk up to the sculptures, look for the ladybugs, and enjoy the interactive elements. The new location is located on a path along Wylder Parkway, which is identified as an arterial roadway, that runs from Glades Cut Off Road and Midway Road. There is no parking associated with the artwork plaza; therefore, only pedestrians, primarily being the residents of the adjacent communities, will be able to access and engage with the site. The ordinance states that artwork must be “freely accessible”. As a result, far fewer members of the general public are likely to see or interact with the artwork, and it shifts from a public-facing experience to a semi-public neighborhood feature. For the Heart in the Park project, Mattamy reserved a portion of the developable land within a commercial shopping area for the Heart in the Park and platted and dedicated the parcel to a CDD. Riverland is reserving land within their commercial development for an interactive public art piece.

If you would like to meet and discuss this further please let us know.

Attachments:

1. Proposed location exhibit
2. Conceptual site plan
3. Section 162.08