



# CITY OF ORLANDO

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Office of  
**Commissioner Patty Sheehan**  
Orlando City Council, District 4

September 28, 2011

Dear Resident,

As you may know, the City of Orlando, District 3 Commissioner Stuart and I along with many community volunteers have been constructing the first ever mountain bike park at the Lake Druid Park located in the Coytown neighborhood. I want to provide you with an update on the status of this unique project.

In 2009 the U.S. Navy conveyed this 19 acre site to the City through the Federal Lands to Parks Program at no cost to Orlando residents. When the Navy conveyed the land to the City, the deed required that the land be set aside for parks and recreational use only. The deed also outlined the Navy's continuing responsibility for remediating any environmental concerns that may arise on the property. Before the land was transferred to the City, the Navy conducted tests on the property to identify any environmental concerns. After their tests were completed, the Navy notified the City that the property was clean and ready to transfer for park uses.

The City and volunteers began work on the mountain bike portion of the property in early 2011. The mountain bike park is being constructed for the public featuring a pump track and trails through the woods for (non-motorized) mountain bicycles. There was a former Navy cold storage building on site that was considered unsafe, so the City took steps and demolished this structurally unsound building. As a part of the demolition, environmental testing was completed and traces of dieldrin and aldrin were found in some of the soil samples under the footprint of the building. Dieldrin and aldrin were pesticides historically used for the control of termites and widely used to treat soil in residential areas in the 1950's through the 1970's.

The City then notified the Navy of its findings, as is required and the Navy subsequently sent their own environmental company to take additional soil samples from the demolition site. While the Navy completes their testing and determines the proper remediation of this site, the City has temporarily delayed the opening of the new park.

We are in close contact with the Navy and have expressed our desire for them to promptly address this matter so we may open the park to the public. Currently, we do not have a timeline as the Navy is still in the investigatory stage. As more information becomes available, I will continue to update you. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at 407.246.2004.

Sincerely,

Patty Sheehan  
Orlando City Commissioner, District 4