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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TREASURE COAST RESEARCH PARK CREATES BACKBONE TEAM

FORT PIERCE – Officials overseeing the Treasure Coast Research Park are moving closer toward developing the site with a focus on green technology and design thanks to the park's new Backbone Design Team.

The team recently held a kick off meeting to focus on designing and developing the park with an emphasis on water management, green energy, energy conservation, building standards, landscaping, wildlife management and public meeting places. The Backbone Design Team consists of local architects, government staff, and building and engineer firms, and will work with the consulting firm Kimley-Horn and Associates to implement its vision. The team's goal is to develop the park so that it will leave a carbon neutral footprint and encompass the most current green technology available.

"Work is being carried out at this time to gain permits from regulatory agencies to allow construction for park roads to begin," said Brian Good, professional engineer for Kimley-Horn and Associates. "The team's intention is to build a park that will allow building and site use flexibility to its tenants, as well as to local educational, civic and special interest organizations."

Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc. has been hired by the Treasure Coast Education, Research and Development Authority (TCERDA) to develop and design: Platting services; perimeter landscape plans; a site design manual; preliminary and final site plans; and roadway plans.

The team has written an Architectural Design Plan as a guideline for buildings within the park using green reference lists such as Florida Green Globes, Energy Star and particularly the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, or LEED, an internationally recognized green building certification developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, which approves green building standards. Measurable performance metrics such as energy and water efficiency, indoor

environmental quality and carbon footprint are all facets of a LEEDS plan. Plans are to incorporate LEEDS specifications inside the park's buildings and throughout the entire property.

"This is a very talented team with an inclusive vision for the future of the Treasure Coast Research Park," said Ben DeVries, executive director of the Research Park. "This park will be a destination for St. Lucie County residents that will offer new walking and exercise trails, public presentation venues, lakes and gardens. We are building a 'Research Park in a Florida Garden' that will be enjoyed equally by park tenants, visiting scholars, students and local residents."

The Backbone Design Team includes: Ben DeVries (Research Park); Brian Good (Kimley-Horn); Chris Mings (Dunkelberger Engineering); Craig Dunkelberger (Dunkelberger Engineering); Craig Hauschild (St. Lucie County Public Works); Chris Betancourt (Miller Legg); David Schryver (GCY); Don West (St. Lucie County Public Works); Jeffery Johnson (St. Lucie County Planning and Development Services); Kara Wood (St. Lucie County Planning and Development Services); Leo Giangrande (Aecom); Mark Satterlee (St. Lucie County Planning and Development Services); Matthew Margotta (City of Fort Pierce Planning); Michael Brillhart (St. Lucie County Planning and Development Services); Michael Powley (St. Lucie County Public Works); Pat LaConte (Aecom); Roberta Breene (St. Lucie County Grants and Disaster Recovery); Ron Harris (St. Lucie County Public Works); Tod Mowery (Cotleur-Hearing); Valerie Schulte (Fort Pierce Utilities Authority); and William Thiess (Fort Pierce Utilities Authority).

Currently anchored by the United States Department of Agriculture's 170,000-square-foot Horticultural Research Laboratory and the 90,000-square-foot University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences' Research and Education Center, TCERDA's Research Park is home to multi-disciplinary scientists, researchers and educators.

The 1,600-acre Research Park is governed by the Treasure Coast Education, Research and Development Authority (TCERDA), pursuant to Florida Statute Section 159, Part V, and the enabling Resolution and Ordinance of the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners. For more information about the Treasure Coast Education, Research and Development Authority visit: www.treasurecoastresearchpark.com.

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