A Special "Thank You" to All Those Involved

County Administration

James L. Ley,	County Administrator
David R. Bullock	Deputy County Administrator

Sarasota County Public Works Business Center

Stephen D. Cork	Executive Director
Thomas M. Wilcox, P.E.	Manager, Road Program
Benjamin E. Newman, P.E.	Projects Engineer
Sandra Newell, P.E.	Stormwater Manager
Dave Vokus	Project Manager
J.P. Marchand, P.E.,	Manager, Planning
Jeanne Koetje	Engineering Inspector
Shayne Paynter	Engineering Inspector

Project Design and Construction Inspection: Boyle Engineering

Fred Adams, P.E.	Branch Manager
Michael Hanson, P.E.	Project Engineer
Jack Hickman	Project Representative

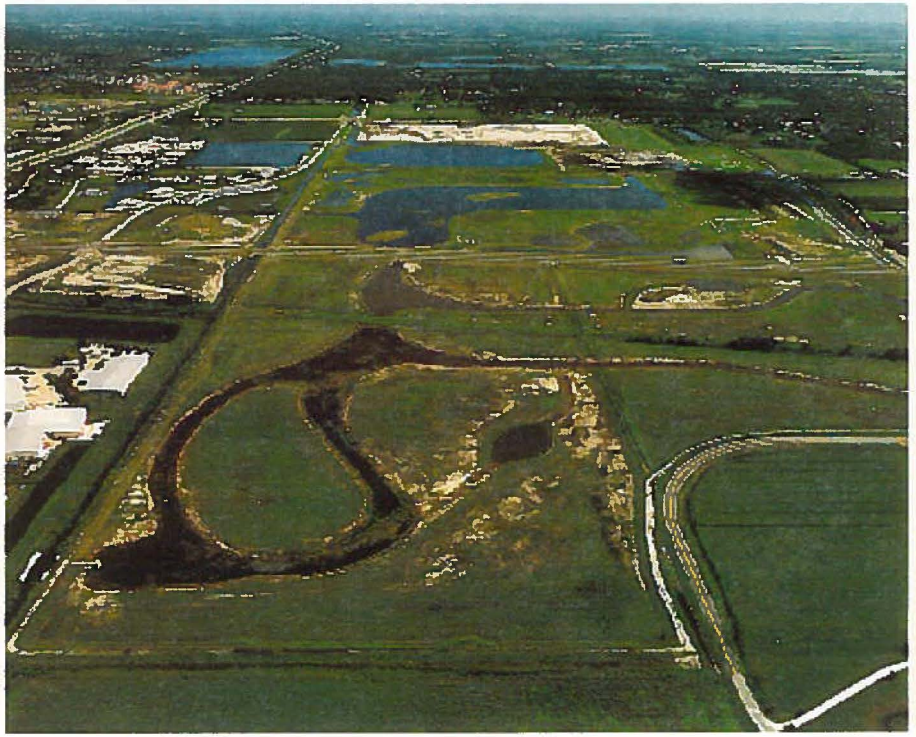
Prime Construction Contractor: Kimmins, Inc.

John Simon	President
John Zemina	Vice-President
Project Engineer	Jay Pepper
Dennis Kirpatrick	General Superintendent
Bob Market	Project Superintendent

"Dedicated to Quality Service"

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility Dedication

October 18,1999 - 11:00 a.m.



SARASOTA COUNTY
Public Works Business Center

Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners

Shannon Staub - Chair, District 3
Raymond A. Pilon - Vice-Chair, District 1
David R. Mills - District 2
Nora Patterson - Distict 4
Robert L. Anderson - District 5

County Administrator

James L. Ley

Storm waters now collect
And low-lying homes are now protect
By the County's single largest stormwater project.

by Elizabeth Tirado, Stormwater

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility

Sarasota County's single largest stormwater project, a $23.4 million, 300-acre regional storage facility, is now operational. The purpose of the Celery Fields project is to protect specific downstream residential areas in the Phillippi Creek Basin from recurring structure and street flooding. In addition to flood protection the facility also provides water quality improvements.

This dedication ceremony celebrates the culmination of six years of planning, permitting, design, and construction. The project was designed by Boyle Engineering Corporation and was constructed in phases by three firms: Prince Contracting Company, Incorporated, of Palmetto; Kelly Brothers Contracting of Fort Myers; and Kimmins Contracting Corporation of Tampa.

Even during construction the facility was put into operation several times, successfully reducing the number of flooded homes in the Phillippi Creek drainage basin. The CFRSF, which was designed to hold 325,000,000 gallons of stormwater, provides flood storage from the 100-yr storm by capturing the run-off from 3,400 acres upstream of the facility.

To build the project cost-effectively the Public Works Stormwater Unit sought grant funding for design and construction from a variety of sources. Through these efforts, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (Manasota Basin Board) partnered with Sarasota County in cooperative funding for all phases of the Celery Fields. This cooperative funding arrangement significantly reduced project costs, which will be paid through Stormwater improvement assessments.

An additional benefit of the Celery Fields design will be the creation of approximately 200 acres of wetlands. Littoral zones, shallow marshes, wet prairies and forested areas will filter stormwater runoff, promoting improved water quality and also provide both aquatic and wetland habitat, and upland wildlife communities.

The project will include fishing, an extensive network of paths for walking or bicycling, and potential educational exhibits. All of these benefits make the Celery Fields a facility that not only serves a critical flood control need but also provide environmental, recreational and educational benefits for the entire community.