

**MARK LERCH, RLA**  
**Landscape Architect/  
Arborist**



**Licensing & Registration**

Florida Registered Landscape Architect, License No. LA6666997

**Education/Training**

Master of Landscape Architecture,  
UMASS Amherst

B.A. Environmental Studies,  
Prescott College, AZ

**Professional Affiliations**

Florida Registered  
Landscape Architect

American Society of  
Landscape Architects  
Full Member

Certified Arborist,  
International Society of Arboriculture

Mark joined Johnson Engineering in 2017 as a Senior Landscape Designer. His experience in technology, certification as an ISA Arborist, Florida Master Naturalist and former masonry construction business owner, inform his designs and contribute to the success of challenging projects. He brings with him a diverse set of skills that allow him to confidently take projects of a range of scales, from concept to completion, while meeting functional constraints and incorporating creative solutions. Mark has worked in Florida since 2004 as a Landscape Architect in both the private and public sector. Mark's past projects include Florida located private residential, roadways, municipal parks and streetscapes, greenway designs, and environmental restoration. In his 13 years as a professional in Florida, Mark has developed a broad understanding of the unique regional, natural and regulatory conditions of southwest Florida that make him valuable to have as a supporting, collaborative team member.

**Relevant Experience:**

- **Santa Barbara Boulevard Median Landscape (1.64m) and Irrigation Plan, Collier County, Naples, Florida** – Senior Landscape Designer for the development of a Collier County aesthetically compatible, median landscape planting concept including low maintenance, sight-visibility compliant landscaping choices, Florida friendly design, soil replacement strategy and a 100% coverage irrigation system. Our team successfully engaged community members during a design charrette that clearly illustrated planting design proposals, cross-sections and photo boards of suggested plant choices. Final construction documents and cost data created for bidding and installation for Collier County.
- **Dade City Florida, Bicycle Trailhead Park** - Senior Landscape Designer on a team that provided conceptual and diagrammatic solutions to revitalizing an underutilized City property that emphasized existing neighborhood connections, preserving mature tree canopy while promoting user access to a regional trail network for bicyclists and pedestrians. Site improvement suggestions included restrooms, bicycle tune up stands, picnicking areas, water fountains for people and their pet friends, trail signage, as well as on and off-street parking.
- **Billy Bowlegs Park, Fort Myers, Lee County** – As part of a team effort, the Johnson Engineering team generated 3 completely unique concept plans for an existing neighborhood park that envisioned approximately 180 paved parking spaces, drive turn-around drop-off areas, covered basketball courts, practice and team play soccer fields with home and away bleachers, audio sound systems, a circulation path through the site and the provision for existing and proposed offices, restrooms and on-site food concession.
- **Hancock Bridge Parkway Median (1.87m) Landscape Design** - Senior Landscape Designer that facilitated the collection of base information and gathered site data with field visits to create an informative existing conditions plan. Subsequent plans, based on information acquired during a meeting with the City of Cape Coral leadership and community members included recommendations for both tree removal and new alternative plantings that would bring the medians into compliance with F.D.O.T. sight visibility requirements for turning vehicles. Final constructions plans provided the city guidance for avoiding conflicts with existing utilities, connecting proposed low volume irrigation to existing reclaimed water service packs and a landscape that would evolve into a more diverse and user-friendly version of what was currently available.
- **Charlotte County Government Campus Tree Inventory and Analysis** - Senior Arborist consultant to Charlotte County. JEI worked with the County Facilities Director to identify exceptional existing trees that deserved extra consideration or increased planting area as well as trees which would be better removed and replaced with new candidates that would provide shade and other environmental/ cultural benefits in the future. Plans were developed that provided guidance on root pruning techniques, root barrier options and a tree removal/ protection plan with trees identified for removal, protection or replacement.
- **Lee Health Golisano Children's Hospital Parking Lot Existing Tree Canopy Evaluation** - Senior Arborist, JEI consulted to the Facilities Project Manager for Lee Health to identify critically hazardous trees to be removed in the immediate future (prior to a re-pavement program), recommended trees for removal based on limited growing

area for a species that requires large volume planting areas, and suggested future removals for trees that would become a hazard in the near future. Following the report of the tree removal recommendations Johnson also provided a plan for suggested replacement trees that would be more likely to succeed in the constricted planting diamonds located throughout the parking lot.