



Office of the
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR**

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board
of County Commissioners

FROM: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

DATE: March 30, 2021

SUBJECT: Town of Indian River Shores
Utility Feasibility Study

BACKGROUND

The Town of Indian River Shores (Town) currently receives water, wastewater, and reclaimed water utility services from the City of Vero Beach (City) through a franchise agreement between the Town and the City. The agreement term runs through 2027, and the Town would like to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of the County Utility System providing services to the Town following the expiration of the current agreement in 2027. On March 16, 2021, the Town approved a contract with Arcadis (copy attached) to conduct the study contingent upon agreement by the County to cooperate in the process. This task would not carry a hard cost for the County, but would require County staff time to provide various required information. Therefore, County staff is seeking direction from the Board regarding participating in the study.

Subsequent to the Town Council's approval of the agreement with Arcadis, the County received a letter from the City staff dated March 24, 2021 (copy attached), stating the City's position that the County is required to obtain approval from the City to provide water or sewer service within the City's service area per the 1989 service area agreement. Staff recommends that we request the Town and the City to resolve any dispute on this point as the process moves forward.

FUNDING

The feasibility study will be funded by the Town of Indian River Shores. Therefore, this item does not require funding from the County.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board authorize County staff to cooperate with the Town of Indian River Shores in their efforts to conduct the feasibility study.

ATTACHMENTS

Arcadis Scope of Work for Feasibility Study
Letter from the City of Vero Beach, dated March 24, 2021