

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Parks & Recreation / Department of General Services

Date: January 11, 2022

To: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

Thru: Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney

Kevin M. Kirwin, CPRE, Director Parks & Recreation

From: Beth Powell, Asst. Director Parks & Conservation Resources

Subject: Modification to Subgrant Agreement Between the Division of Emergency Management and

Indian River County; Contract Number 4283-95-R; Project Number H0259

DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

On September 10, 2019, the Board approved a Federally-Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement for the Indian River County Countywide Wildfire Mitigation. The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to assist communities in implementing hazard mitigation measures following a major federal disaster declaration. The HMGP program is a federally funded program that is allocated and distributed by the State. HMGP is a cost-reimbursement grant program and will fund up to 75% for eligible projects. The 25% match may be a combination of cash and in-kind sources. Hazard mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural hazards. Indian River County is an eligible applicant as it has a FEMA-approved local mitigation plan and has a formally adopted Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) (Resolution No. 2010-059 adopted on July 13, 2010, and revised Resolution No. 2015-078 adopted July 7, 2015).

Substantial progress was made with a private contractor to complete the vegetation reduction associated with the installation of the firebreaks, however, delays associated with COVID-19 affected the Florida Forest Service (Forestry). Work associated with the installation of harrow/bare soil lines were unable to be completed as the State closed many offices and reduced in-person operations including the local Forestry office. Equipment and staff were unable to be utilized for nearly a year for the fireline work that is outlined in the County-wide Wildfire Mitigation Plan and is a part of the deliverables under the grant. County staff requested a no-cost grant extension from the Florida Department of Emergency Management with an extended date to complete the work through June 30, 2022. This extension allows County staff the opportunity to work with our local Forestry office to complete the mitigation work outlined.

FUNDING

This is a no-cost funding extension and no funding changes have been made.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board accept the Modification to Subgrant Agreement Between the Division of Emergency Management and Indian River County, and authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement.

ATTACHMENT

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APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2022