

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

THROUGH: Richard B. Szyrka, P. E., Public Works Director

THROUGH: Eric Charest, Natural Resources Manager

FROM: Melissa Meisenburg, Lagoon Plan Environmental Specialist

SUBJECT: Indian River County Lagoon Management Plan Project List

DATE: June 7, 2023

BACKGROUND

On April 4, 2023, Coastal Division staff presented the Indian River County Lagoon Management Plan (LMP) outline to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for approval. Although the outline was approved unanimously by the Board, concerns were raised regarding the lack of County prioritized projects that could target potential grant funds being made available under the Florida Legislature's Indian River Lagoon Protection Program (Program). The Program allocates at least \$100 million annually for priority projects to improve water quality in the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). Staff were directed to move forward working with Tetra Tech in the Plan Development Phase, while simultaneously compiling an updated list of prioritized projects for the County intended to benefit the IRL.

DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

Coastal Division staff have been working with Tetra Tech to compile an updated project list from the Coastal and Stormwater Divisions, Conservation Lands, Utilities, and Community Development. Tetra Tech contacted IRC department staff on April 17, 2023, to request a comprehensive list of projects. A submission deadline for the internal list of projects was set for May 5, 2023.

While working on the prioritized project list staff, along with representatives from Tetra Tech, met with the County Administrator on April 27, 2023, to review and refine the project timeline for the development of the County's LMP. This expedited timeline identified today's June 20, 2023, Board meeting for the presentation of the project list to the Board, with the draft LMP targeted for the July 11, 2023, Board meeting.

Included with this agenda item is Tetra Tech's workorder proposal for Public Outreach associated with the LMP development. Staff is requesting the Board approve Tetra Tech's *Proposal to Indian River County for Development of an Indian River Lagoon Management Plan – Public Outreach* which identifies activities Tetra Tech would be undertaking on behalf of the County to gather input and feedback on the draft LMP. Under the proposed workorder, Tetra

Tech would meet individually with each Commissioner to solicit comments on the draft LMP, and then host Public Workshops in July and August where additional feedback would be received. The final version of the LMP, incorporating items from both the one-on-one Commissioner meetings, as well as those received through the public comment and workshops, is anticipated to be presented to the Board on September 26, 2023 for consideration.

In order to finalize the County’s prioritized project list for this agenda, each Department involved has provided conceptual, planned and operational project information that focuses on addressing one to many of the 19 key factors affecting the IRL identified in the approved LMP outline. The project list is sorted by Department and then by status. Project descriptions are presented along with associated costs and anticipated benefits to the IRL. Project status is classified as operational, under construction, designed, and conceptual. On May 26, 2023, Coastal Division staff met with Tetra Tech to review the updated project list and close any gaps in the projects. The resulting list is intended to be used to prioritize projects and as a tool to seek funding. This list, and subsequent revisions and updates to it, will be an integral part of the County’s LMP.

FUNDING

Funding for professional water resource engineering support services is budgeted and available in the Indian River Lagoon/Other Professional Services, Account No. 00128337-033190.

Account Name	Account No.	Amount
Indian River Lagoon/Other Professional Services	00128337-033190	\$68,956.02

RECOMMENDATION

The LMP project list is being presented to the Board in order to highlight many of the County’s existing projects, as well as provide a list of the County’s anticipated future efforts aimed at improving the health of the IRL. The County’s LMP project list is also to be considered as a prioritized list of current and potential projects for funding requests. In addition, staff is requesting the Board authorize the Tetra Tech Public Outreach Workorder in the amount of \$68,956.02 for professional water resource engineering support services associated with supporting County staff’s development of the Indian River Lagoon Management plan. Staff also recommends that the Board authorize the Chairman to execute the Public Outreach Workorder.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Indian River County LMP project list
2. Tetra Tech Public Outreach Workorder
3. Tetra Tech Workorder execution form