

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich Jr., County Administrator

PREPARED BY: Andrew Sobczak, Interim Community Development Director

DATE: September 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Grant to Update the County's Vulnerability Assessment Study

DESCRIPTION & CONDITIONS

In 2019, County staff successfully submitted a grant application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to complete a sea level rise analysis and vulnerability assessment covering critical property, infrastructure, and communities in Indian River County. In 2021, the grant-funded study was completed and the final report was issued. Shortly after the project was closed out, new statutory requirements under Section 380.093 F.S. took effect, and in order to be compliant with the new requirements, the County's vulnerability assessment study must be updated.

ANALYSIS

In 2022, County Staff submitted a FDEP Resilient Florida Grants program application to update the County's vulnerability assessment by making it compliant with statute, and also to improve upon the previous study's level of analysis. In early 2023, staff was notified that the grant application was successful, and the County would be awarded \$248,675.00 to complete the updated study.

To move forward with the project, the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Standard Grant Agreement must be executed by the County Administrator. Following approval of the grant agreement, staff will initiate the RFP process to procure a consultant to complete the study.

FUNDING

Funding for the grant will be provided by a budget amendment of \$248,675.00 to the revenue account MSTU/ DEP/ Comp Vulnerability Grant, Account # 004033-334301-23047, and to the expense account MSTU/Natural Resources/Env.Planning / Other Professional Services/Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment, Account # 00423137-033190-23047.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the County Administrator to sign the standard grant agreement, and authorize staff to proceed with the consultant selection process.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter of Support for the Grant Application from the BCC Chairman
2. Standard Grant Agreement