

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



May 4, 2018

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Attn: Julie A. Dennis, Director
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street, MSC 160
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1420

Subject: **FY 2018/2019 DEO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT for:
LIVING SHORELINES IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY: AN EDUCATIONAL
DEMONSTRATION SITE AT ROUND ISLAND PARK**

Dear Ms. Dennis:

Indian River County respectfully submits the enclosed grant application for consideration of \$13,500 in FY 2018/2019 funding under the DEO Technical Assistance grant program.

- **Requesting Organization Name and Contact Information for Project Lead**

Requesting Organization: Indian River County
Public Works Coastal Engineering Division
1801 27th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Project Lead: James Gray, Jr., Natural Resources Manager
772-226-1344
jgray@ircgov.com

- **Brief Summary of the Project and its Benefits When Implemented**

Round Island Riverside Park is a large County owned park located in southern Indian River County. Amenities include ample parking, boat ramps and canoe launches, children's playgrounds, several picnic pavilions, and a lagoon observation boardwalk.

Indian River County intends to engage and educate the public on the importance of a healthy lagoon system by showcasing a living shoreline/oyster reef deployed within a public park.
FY 2018/2019 DEO Grant – Indian River County

Through involvement of community volunteers and students, an oyster reef/living shoreline demonstration project will be constructed adjacent to a heavily utilized lagoon observation boardwalk within the County's Round Island Park.

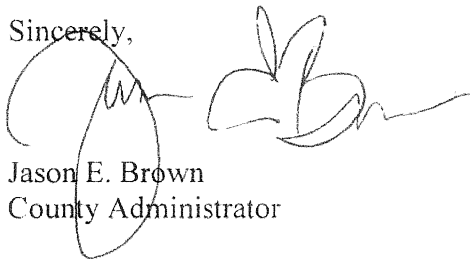
Innovative educational signs and information will be developed to further highlight the project and surrounding ecosystem. The County intends to continue to showcasing the project through presentations and school interaction.

- **Project Funding Request**

Funding Request: \$13,500 for project design, permitting, construction and signage

We believe the project will result in a very positive outcome for the Indian River Lagoon and its neighboring Counties and we are proud to offer it for consideration. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,



Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

FY 2018-2019

DEO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

LIVING SHORELINES IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY: AN EDUCATIONAL

DEMONSTRATION SITE AT ROUND ISLAND PARK

SCOPE OF WORK

1. **GRANT AUTHORITY.** This Community Planning Technical Assistance grant is provided pursuant to section 163.3168, F.S., and Specific Appropriation 2220, Chapter 2016-66, Laws of Florida, to provide direct and/or indirect technical assistance to help Florida communities find creative solutions to fostering vibrant, healthy communities, while protecting the functions of important State resources and facilities.
2. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Grantee will design and construct a living shoreline/ oyster reef within Round Island Park, and subsequently engage and educate the public on the importance of a healthy lagoon system by showcasing the oyster reef. Innovative education videos, signs and information will be utilized to highlight the project and surrounding ecosystem, and encourage positive environmental behavior changes.

The proposed living shoreline demonstration site will be the first County administered living shoreline project in Indian River County. The County has partnered with multiple agencies with years of experience (i.e. FWC, IRLT, DEP AP) to guide and assist the County during the planning stages and deployment of this shoreline project.

3. **GRANTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:** To perform the tasks and timely provide DEO with the deliverables identified in paragraph 5 below pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
 - A. **Deliverable 1- The Grantee shall design a living shoreline demonstration at Round Island (RI) Park.**
 - (1) The Grantee shall utilize its staff and consultants to design a small-scale living shoreline to provide an educational demonstration site to the public.
 - B. **Deliverable 2- The Grantee shall apply for and receive a living shoreline permit.**
 - (1) The Grantee will receive a living shoreline permit from Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. No other permits are required for the educational signs because the Grantee owns the Round Island Park.

C. Deliverable 3- The Grantee shall construct a living shoreline.

- (1) The Grantee, with help from DEP Aquatic Preserve, Indian River Land Trust, FWC and Coastal Connections volunteers, will construct a small-scale living shoreline to provide an educational demonstration site to the public. The project will be constructed adjacent to a heavily utilized Lagoon observation boardwalk within the County's Round Island Park.

D. Deliverable 4- The Grantee shall install educational signs and recycling bins/litter stations.

- (1) The Grantee will advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the creation of the educational signs. QR codes will be printed on the signs to provide a link to innovative videos.
- (2) Visitors to Round Island Park's living shoreline demonstration site will be educated on the benefits of oysters and habitat enhancement, how living shorelines are used to buffer the shore from erosion and allow a natural recruitment of fish to create nursery habitat.
- (3) The County will also install multiple recycling bins within the park and implement countywide educational programs identifying the benefits of recycling.

E. Deliverable 5- The Grantee shall create a series of videos to educate visitors.

- (1) The Grantee will advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the creation of a series of videos to educate visitors on the importance of living shorelines, the natural resources of the Indian River Lagoon and how technologies for habitat enhancement have changed over time. Information will also be provided about potential threats to the Lagoon, how technologies for habitat enhancement have improved over time, and about protected species like manatees and turtles that utilize this habitat.
- (2) The goal of the demonstration site is to encourage and educate citizens on how to do their part to protect the Lagoon from the threats this habitat faces every day such as over fertilizing, littering, benefits of recycling, refusal to pick up pet waste, etc.
- (3) Suggested positive behavioral changes will be identified in the educational videos attached to the demonstration signs via QR codes.
- (4) The Grantee shall provide quarterly reports for one year after installation. Educational impacts of the project will be measured by collecting the following data: 1) A record

of how many times each video QR code has been scanned and the video site visited, and 2) survey responses from individuals who visited the videos linked to the QR code. Also, a 10 question survey will be created by the Grantee to quantify self-assessed environmental knowledge and willingness to engage in environmentally friendly behaviors like recycling.

(5) The Grantee will also provide a measure of environmentally friendly behaviors using an estimation of recycled material collected at Round Island Park. These data will be calculated by weighing each of the three the recycling carts introduced around Round Island Park once a month just before pick by Waste Management. Other data determining behavior changes or environmentally friendly behaviors will be collected using the survey method described above.

4. **DEO’S RESPONSIBILITES:** To receive and review deliverables and, upon approval of deliverables, process payment pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
5. **DELIVERABLES:** The specific deliverables, tasks, minimum levels of service, due dates, payment amounts, and financial consequences are set forth in paragraph 3 above and in the following table:

Deliverables and Tasks	Performance Measures	Due Date	Payment Amount
Deliverable 1. Final Report			
1. Project Design	Design for living shoreline demonstration at Round Island (RI) Park	June/Aug 2018	\$ 3,500.00
2. Permitting	Living shoreline permits. Permits are not required for the educational signs to be installed as IRC owns RI Park	Aug/Sep 2018	\$ 2,000.00
3. Installation of Living Shoreline	Construct and deploy living shoreline demonstration at RI Park	Sep/Oct 2018	\$ 3,000
4. Educational Signs	Install educational signs and recycling bins/litter stations	Sep/Oct 2018	\$3,000.00
5. Videography	The Grantee will provide quarterly reports for one year		

	after installation that will include an analysis of citizen surveys, the number of times the videos were engaged, and available data related to pounds of trash recycled at the park. County will update videos as necessary.		\$2,000.00
Total Payment Amount Not to Exceed: \$ 13,500.00			