

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr. County Administrator

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

SUBJECT: Stormwater Pipeline Easement Request
Gifford Dock Park

DATE: August 29, 2023

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

The City of Vero Beach is planning the construction of a pipeline (see attached Route Exhibit) that will provide treated stormwater as an irrigation source to Johns Island Water Management Inc., (JIWM), for use by both the residents of Johns Island and the two golf courses operated by Johns Island Club. Once complete, the pipeline will carry a maximum day withdrawal of 4.0 million gallons with a targeted goal of 3.0 million gallons per day annually. It is anticipated that the initial annual withdrawals will exceed 2.2 million gallons per day once operational. This new source will replace the current water sources by JIWM. These sources are 1.0 million gallons per day from two wells that draw water from the Floridan Aquifer and 1.2 million gallons per day of reclaimed water. It is estimated that once fully operational the system will reduce the nutrient loading to the Indian River Lagoon for total nitrogen (TN) by 9,772 lbs/yr and total phosphorous (TP) by 1,461 lbs/yr.

The project design shows the pipeline being constructed through property owned by the County known as Gifford Dock Park (Park). In order to construct the pipeline through the Park, two easements are required from the County. The first is a "Temporary Construction Easement" granted by the County to the City over the entire property to construct the pipeline and to construct a picnic pavilion at the park within one (1) year of receipt of all necessary permits for the pavilion. (see attached exhibits) As a result of the construction activities necessary at the park site, the park may be closed for up to ninety (90) days. For compensation of the loss of the park use by the residents, the City will construct a covered picnic shelter for future use by the residents.

Once the pipeline construction is complete and the picnic pavilion is constructed, a second permanent easement reflecting the as-built location of the pipeline will be prepared and granted to the City by the County.

FUNDING

No County funding is necessary for this project.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve the Temporary Construction Easement and the issuance of a Permanent Pipeline Easement after installation of the pipeline, and authorize the Chairman to execute both documents, after review and approval by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Gifford Dock – Temporary Construction Easement
2. Gifford Dock – Draft Permanent Easement
3. COVB Stormwater Pipeline Route
4. Gifford Dock – Shelter Exhibit

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2023