



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM
Department of General Services
Parks & Recreation - Conservation Resources**

Date: August 6, 2022

To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners

Through: Jason Brown, County Administrator
Kristin Daniels, Budget Director
Michael Zito, Asst. County Administrator

From: Beth Powell, Director Parks & Recreation

Subject: Notice of Grant Award from the Florida Division of Historical Resources for
Kroegel Homestead Historic Structures, Condition Assessment –
23.h.sm.100.125

DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

The Kroegel Homestead Conservation Area was purchased in 2004 by Indian River County with grant funding provided by the Florida Communities Trust (FCT). The 2.61 acre Rodney Kroegel parcel contains the remnants of structures that belonged to a son of Paul Kroegel, first warden of the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the nation's first NWR (established in 1903). In large part due to the efforts of Paul Kroegel, President Teddy Roosevelt established the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge in 1903, marking the beginning of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the world's largest and most diverse assemblage of lands for wildlife. The project is adjacent to the Indian River Lagoon, an estuary of National significance, and is an integral part of the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, which is located directly east of the Kroegel Homestead. The purpose of the project is to preserve and open to the public the Homestead, which is of state and national significance in "completing the story" of the natural and cultural heritage of the federal refuge system and of the nationally significant Indian River Lagoon. Per the management plan, public access improvements will be designed to preserve the natural and cultural integrity of resources on the property. In order to leverage funding and maximize cost effectiveness for management and improvements to conservation areas, staff continues to seek funding through various applicable grants. The Division of Historical Resources Small Matching Grant provides matching funds to provide renovation, reconstruction, education and public access to historically significant sites.

On August 5, 2022, Indian River County was notified that the County's small matching grant application submitted in 2020 was chosen for funding. The grant funds and County match will be used to hire architectural and engineering services to conduct an existing conditions assessment for the Office and Plumbing Shop (Barn) sites and to produce a historic structure report, including treatment recommendations and elevation renderings. The total award of \$14,250 will be matched with cash by the County for a total project cost of \$28,500. This is a reimbursement grant that

must be completed by June 30, 2023. The deliverables outlined in the grant award are summarized to include:

- Historic Preservation Credentials and Project Timeline
- Draft Historic Structure Report and Elevation Renderings
- Final Historic Structure Report and Elevation Renderings

FUNDING

Funding for this grant, in the amount of \$14,250, is provided in the updated Capital Improvement Element of the Comprehensive Plan (CIE), adopted on December 14, 2021, through Optional Sales Tax/Parks/Kroegel Conservation Area Improvements, account number 31521072-066510-19006.

Account Name	Account Number	Amount
Optional Sales Tax/Parks/ Kroegel Conservation Area Improvements	31521072-066510-19006	\$14,250

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board accept the Division of Historical Resources Small Matching Grant for 2022-2023 and authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement between the State of Florida, Department of State and Indian River County Parks Division, grant number 23.h.sm.100.125.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Agreement between the State of Florida, Department of State and Indian River County Parks Division, grant number 23.h.sm.100.125.

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR AUGUST 16, 2022.