

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
BOARD MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA

TO: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

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

FROM: James D. Gray, Jr.
Coastal Engineer

SUBJECT: **Notice of Application for Hurricane Matthew HMGP Grant Funding
Wabasso Causeway Fishing Pier Removal**

DATE: May 31, 2017

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

On February 8, 2017, the Florida Division of Emergency Management announced the availability of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds resulting from the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Matthew (FEMA 4283-DR-FL). The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to assist communities in implementing hazard mitigation measures following a major federal disaster declaration. The HMGP program is a federally funded program that is allocated and distributed by the State. There are three funding tiers: Tier One is the initial allocation of submitted and eligible projects which are funded in order of priority as endorsed by the LMS Working Group; Tier Two and Three allocates remaining funds to applicants whose projects are not funded through the Tier One phase as funding is available.

HMGP is a cost-reimbursement grant program and will fund up to 75% for eligible projects. The 25% match may be a combination of cash and in-kind sources. Hazard mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural hazards. Indian River County is an eligible applicant as it has a FEMA-approved local mitigation plan and has a formally adopted Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) (Resolution No. 2010-059 adopted on July 13, 2010, and revised Resolution No. 2015-078 adopted July 7, 2015). Indian River County's estimated funding allocation for Hurricane Matthew is \$437,838.87.

Indian River County's LMS Working Group members met on January 6, 2017, and created a prioritized project list for the HMGP eligible projects. That list was narrowed down to a total of 18 projects that were considered not only eligible, but practical. This list was revised again in April 2017 after Florida Department of Emergency Management review and narrowed further to a list of 12 county-wide projects which included the Wabasso Causeway Fishing Pier Removal (ranked #4). HMGP applications are due to the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management by June 9, 2017.

Project Priority #4 – Wabasso Causeway Fishing Pier Removal

The Wabasso Fishing Pier was significantly impacted by the passing of Hurricane Matthew in early October 2016, causing approximately 400 LF of the Pier superstructure to be displaced from its substructure and deposited into the Indian River Lagoon south of its previous location. The current status of the fishing pier causes potential navigation hazards as well as a threat to the surrounding CR 510 Causeway. As the Wabasso fishing pier is currently damaged beyond repair, the proposed HMGP project proposes to demolish and completely remove the pier in an effort to mitigate potential public health and safety hazards. HMGP funding in the amount of \$500,000 is intended to be applied to the design, permitting, and demolition phases of the project.

FUNDING

The total cost for the Wabasso Fishing Pier removal project is estimated at \$1.1 Million. The HMGP grant will provide up to \$375,000 with a required local match of \$125,000. Funding for the local match and the remaining project costs, estimated at \$600,000, are available from the Florida Boating Improvement Fund Account No. 13321072-033490. Staff is also pursuing additional funding under Category A, Debris Removal under FEMA 4283-DR-FL. If awarded, the grant agreement will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for final funding approval and grant execution.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is requesting authorization to finalize and submit the HMGP Application for Wabasso Causeway Fishing Pier Removal, identified by the LMS as Project Priority #4 for Indian River County in the amount of \$500,000, and further authorize the County Administrator to sign the grant application after review by the County Attorney for legal sufficiency.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A – Indian River County Local Mitigation Strategy Project Prioritization list for HMGP Applications related to Hurricane Matthew (FEMA-4283-DR) updated April 5, 2017.
Attachment B – State of Florida – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application Form

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR: JUNE 6, 2017