

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
M E M O R A N D U M**

TO: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

THROUGH: Stan Boling, AICP
Community Development Director

FROM: Roland M. DeBlois, AICP
Chief, Environmental Planning

DATE: June 12, 2017

RE: Notice of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application for Elevation of the Main House at the Jones's Pier Conservation Area

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners formally consider the following information at the Board's regular meeting of June 20, 2017.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

On February 8, 2017, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) announced the availability of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds resulting from the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Matthew. The purpose of the HMGP is to assist communities in implementing hazard mitigation measures. The program is federally funded, but is allocated and distributed by the State through the FDEM. The estimated funding availability for hazard mitigation projects in Indian River County under the current HMGP funding cycle is \$437,839.

Indian River County is an eligible HMGP applicant in that the County has a FEMA-approved local mitigation plan and has a formally adopted Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). This past January, the County's LMS Working Group created a prioritized list of potential HMGP projects. That list was subsequently narrowed down to 12 eligible county-wide projects, including a proposal to elevate the historic main house at the Jones's Pier Conservation Area, which was flooded during Hurricane Matthew. Attached is a copy of the refined LMS list of eligible projects, with the Jones's Pier project ranked 12th on the list.

The deadline for submittal of HMGP proposals under the current cycle was June 9, 2017. Staff submitted an HMGP application for the Jones's Pier project prior to the June 9 deadline, with the understanding that if the project is selected for funding, a formal agreement will be subject to County Commission approval at a future date before the grant is accepted and finalized, or otherwise declined by the Board at that time.

Project Description

The historic Jones's Pier bungalow/ main house, original built circa 1921, lies approximately 80 feet from the Indian River Lagoon and currently has a finished floor elevation (FFE) of 3.27 feet (NAVD 88), which is 3.73 feet below the FEMA Base Flood Elevation (BFE) of 7 feet (NAVD 88). During Hurricane Matthew,

the bungalow structure, which has an approximate 1 1/2 foot underbuilding crawl space, was inundated with approximately 7-9 inches of water in the interior for several days, resulting in damage.

The HMGP application to elevate the main Jones's Pier house is based on a proposal obtained by staff from Brownie Companies, which specializes in the elevation of existing structures. Based on the Brownie proposal, the estimated cost of the HMGP project is \$69,356 (see Attachment 2).

Funding

The 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. Under this proposed project, the 75% grant funding is estimated at \$52,017, with the County's match share (25%) estimated at \$17,339. If the project is selected for funding, staff will recommend a budget amendment from Acquisition Bonds/Cash Forward to fund the 25% match.

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item only; no Board action is requested at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

1. LMS HMGP projects priority list (April 2017).
2. Project cost estimate.