

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
BOARD MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

THROUGH: Kylie Yanchula, Natural Resources Director

FROM: Laura Yonkers, Stormwater Manager

SUBJECT: Authorization Request for Staff to apply funding through FDEP’s Water Quality Protection Grant Program

DATE: June 18th, 2024

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s (FDEP) Water Quality Protection Grant (WQPG) was created to provide water quality grant funding opportunities to local communities for efforts at protecting our natural systems. The FDEP WQPG provides eligible entities (including local governments), the opportunity to submit proposals that bolster efforts at protecting and restoring Florida’s water resources. Starting on May 1, 2024, local governments were able to apply for funds to implement eligible nonpoint source pollution Best Management Practices (BMPs) or public education programs aimed at improving water quality.

Staff is seeking Board of County Commissioner approval to apply for WQPGs for a small scale streetsweeper and a vacuum-truck to be used in BMPs to capture pollutants before they make their way to the Indian River Lagoon. The estimated cost for the equipment is approximately \$360,000 and \$750,000 respectively. Staff is also seeking BOCC approval to apply for WQPGs for floating wetlands for San Sebastian Park and West Pond for nutrient removal at an estimated cost of \$323,000. If the County receives an award under these WQPG applications, monies not covered by the grant would be made up from a proposed budget amendment from the Transportation Fund.

The application period for WQPG closes on June 30, 2024, and if approved, applications would be submitted by the Stormwater Division in advance of that date.

FUNDING

If the County is awarded any funds under this grant, it is anticipated that the award would not cover the complete cost of the equipment and any additional funding required would be supplemented by a budget amendment from the Transportation Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation of staff is for the Board of County Commissioners to authorize Staff to apply

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Water Quality Protection Grant Application Authorization
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for Water Quality Protection Grant for Non-Point Source Management prior to the June 30, 2024
deadline.

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR: June 18, 2024