

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John Titkanich, Jr. County Administrator

FROM: Eric Charest, Interim Natural Resources Director

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 1 – FDEP Grant Agreement No. 21IR1 (Vero Beach Restoration – Beach Management Sector 5)

DATE: January 3, 2024

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) received FY 2020/2021 funding to assist eligible governmental entities for beach erosion control activities under the Florida Beach Management Funding Assistance Program. On May 19, 2021, FDEP entered into Local Government Funding Request (LGFR) Grant Agreement No. 21IR1 with Indian River County, committing up to \$326,329 at a 46.65% State/53.35% County cost share ratio for construction and post-construction required monitoring costs associated with a Sector 5 Beach and Dune Restoration Project. Indian River County’s Sector 5 Beach and Dune Restoration Project completed construction in March of 2020 but requires on-going post-construction monitoring to take place over the next 4 years.

On October 27, 2023, County staff requested the FDEP issue an extension to the terms of Grant 21IR1. Construction of the Sector 5 Beach and Dune Restoration project was completed in March of 2020, but due to on-going discussions with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) representatives, the final non-Federal costs associated with the project have not yet been determined. FDEP Grant 21IR1 identifies a cost share between the State and County for non-Federally reimbursed expenses. The Federal reimbursement strategy must first be finalized before cost share eligible expenses under this grant can be submitted for reimbursement.

Amendment No. 1 maintains the same funding total in Grant 21IR1 and also extends the Deliverable Due Dates through to September 30, 2024, reflecting a twelve (12) month extension to the deadlines for the Grant. The FDEP granted extension is anticipated to allow time for all agencies making funds available for the County’s Sector 5 Beach and Dune Project to agree on their respective allocations, thus allowing for the County to cost-share the non-federal costs under this grant.

The attached amendment maintains FDEP’s commitment of up to \$326,329.00 in cost-share funding to the County’s local cost share of up to \$373,196.00 for construction and post construction related monitoring expenses for the County’s Sector 5 Beach and Dune Restoration Project in which construction was completed in March 2020.

FUNDING

No additional costs will be incurred to accept this grant extension.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve FDEP Amendment No. 1 to FDEP LGFR Grant Agreement No. 21IR1 and authorize the Chairman to sign the Amendment on behalf of the County. Following Board approval, the County will transmit the partially executed Amendment to the State for final signatures. Upon receipt of the fully executed FDEP Grant Agreement 21IR1 Amendment No. 1 from the State, staff will transmit to the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners for filing.

ATTACHMENTS

1. FDEP Grant Agreement 21IR1_A1

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR: JANUARY 23, 2024