

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT
between
Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees
and

Indian River County Board of County Commissioners

Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees located at 10501 FGCU Blvd South, Fort Myers, FL 33965 (“FGCU”), and Indian River County Board of County Commissioners, located at 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960

(“PARTICIPANT”) and agree to the following terms and conditions under which PARTICIPANT has agreed to Participate in Study to Identify and Analyze Potential Regional Water Quality Improvement Projects (“Project”) and to complete its participation in the Project by March 27, 2026.

1. Purpose of Project

This Project is to gather data related to water quality projects across Florida to identify and analyze potential regional projects, including those that encompass and extend beyond septic conversion, stormwater management, hydrologic improvements, and innovative technology categories. FGCU will collect data directly from city, county, and state entities as well as from publicly available water quality databases to categorize, quantify, and report information relevant to water quality projects across the state. Data from Participants will be collected and aggregated using an electronic intake and data analytics tool. The University will use this data to identify and analyze potential regional projects that meet the eligibility criteria set forth in s. 403.0673, Florida Statutes. The data collected from participating city, county, and state entities will include:

- Primary water quality concerns (e.g., nutrient pollution, sedimentation, harmful algal blooms) for impaired rivers, lakes, or other water bodies and the potential sources of pollutants, along with the publicly available water quality or related data.
- A list and description of water quality projects previously implemented, including the affected waterbody, estimated costs, estimated benefits, and nutrient loading reduction goals, as available.
- Current water quality projects including the affected waterbody, estimated costs, estimated benefits, and nutrient loading reduction goals, as available.
- Anticipated future water quality projects including the affected waterbody, estimated costs, estimated benefits, and nutrient loading reduction goals along with the publicly available water quality or related data that supports anticipated water quality projects, as available.
- Perceived data gaps that would directly support the goal of reducing nutrients in that region.

2. Participation and Consent

The PARTICIPANT agrees to participate in the Project and to fully complete and submit the Project survey attached as Exhibit 1 by March 27, 2026.

3. Compensation

FGCU shall pay PARTICIPANT the amount of \$10,000 upon receipt of the fully completed survey, an invoice for said amount by Indian River County Board of County Commissioners, and provide a signed W-9 form sent to the FGCU Contact shown under section 5.

4. Voluntary Participation

The PARTICIPANT'S response to this survey is voluntary.

5. Contact Information

For FGCU: **Rachel Rotz, Ph.D.**
10501 FGCU Blvd South
Fort Myers, FL 33965
rrotz@fgcu.edu
706-612-0109

For Participant: Name: John A. Titkanich
Title: County Administrator
Address: 1801 27th Street
Address2: Vero Beach, FL 32960
Email: jtitkanich@indianriver.gov
Telephone: 772-226-1202

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Participation Agreement to be executed and made effective as the date of last execution. Each person signing on behalf of the parties to this Participation Agreement represents and warrants that they have full authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of such party and that this Participation Agreement will constitute a legal and binding obligation of such party.

Indian River County Board of County Commissioners

Participant Legal Name

Printed Name: John A. Titkanich Date: _____
Title: County Administrator

Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees

Name: Rosemary Higgins, M.D. Date: _____
Title: Associate Vice President for Research