



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Parks, Recreation & Conservation**  
**Conservation Division**

---

**Date:** October 12, 2023  
**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners  
**Thru:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator  
Beth Powell, Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director  
**From:** Wendy Swindell, Conservation Lands Manager  
**Subject:** Florida Inland Navigation District Project Agreement for the Environmental Learning Center Dock Replacement Part 2, Project #IR-23-77

---

**BACKGROUND:**

On May 18, 2021, the Board approved the third modification to the lease between the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) and Indian River County, and adopted Resolution 2021-036 for the purpose of applying for a grant to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) in partnership with the ELC to replace the dock on the ELC campus (constructed in 1992). The approved project included a complete reconstruction of the existing dock in the same footprint as the current structure. In June 2021, County staff submitted a Waterways Assistance Program (WAP) grant application to FIND in partnership with the ELC. The application was accepted by FIND, and subsequently approved for funding. The grant agreement included an award of \$100,000, to be matched with an equal cash match provided through private donations that have been raised, as well as cash in hand by the ELC. On December 7, 2021 the Board accepted the FIND Grant, and authorized the Chairman to execute the FIND Agreement IR-21-71.

The County solicited bids for the construction of the project in June 2022. The bids received exceeded the project budget, and were subsequently rejected. In response to the funding shortfall, the ELC coordinated with FIND to solicit feedback on whether additional project funding would be feasible in the 2023 WAP cycle. Based on this coordination, the County applied for an additional \$50,000 in project funding in the 2023 WAP funding cycle. The ELC has raised an additional \$100,000 towards the construction of the project, bringing their contribution to \$200,000. With the additional \$50,000 from FIND, the sum of the ELC contribution and FIND funding will bring the project budget to a revised total of \$350,000. A fourth modification to the lease agreement between the County and the ELC reflecting these changes was approved by the Board on December 13, 2022.

In January 2023, the County solicited bids for the replacement of the ELC Dock. The project was awarded by the Board to Indian River Docks, LLC on March 28, 2023, in the amount of \$331,456. The project was scheduled to be completed August 2023; thus, staff applied for an extension to the FIND Agreement to allow for unanticipated delays (due to the construction occurring during hurricane season). The extension was approved by FIND, and a project amendment was approved

by the Board on August 15, 2023. This amendment extends the grant completion period through September 30, 2025.

**DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:**

On October 6, 2023 staff received notification from FIND that the agreement for the additional \$50,000 in funding was approved. The project agreement for Environmental Learning Center Dock Replacement Part 2, Project #IR-23-77, is included with this agenda item for consideration by the Board.

**FUNDING:**

The dock expenses are funded out of the Florida Boating Improvement Fund/FIND Grant/ELC Main Dock Replacement account number 13321072-066510-22013, with a total budget of \$350,000.

Revenue Source	Account Number	Amount
FL Boating Improvement Fund/FIND Grant/ELC Main Dock Replacement	13321072-066510-22013	\$350,000.00

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff respectfully recommends the Board accept the Project Agreement for Environmental Learning Center Dock Replacement Part 2, Project #IR-23-77, and authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement after review and approval by the County Attorney.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- FIND Project Agreement Environmental Learning Center Dock Replacement Part 2, #IR-23-77

**APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR OCTOBER 31, 2023**