



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

Date: March 14, 2024
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: Carter Associates, Inc. Work Order Number 1, RFQ 2023015 - South Oslo
Riverfront Conservation Area Floodplain Restoration Project Design

BACKGROUND:

The South Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area (SORCA) was acquired through cost-share funding with Florida Communities Trust. SORCA consists of three parcels: (1) the 66-acre Salama & Emerson Tract that was acquired in 2000; (2) the 6.69-acre “South Link” which was acquired in 2004 and serves to connect the Audubon house to SORCA; and (3) the 70-acre Diamond Tract which was acquired in 2005. The property is located on the south side of Oslo Road directly across from the 298-acre Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area (ORCA). Similar to ORCA, the site contains pedestrian trails and a wetland overlook. Dominant plant communities on the site include mesic pine flatwoods, coastal hammock, and estuarine wetlands.

Staff plans to design a restoration project that includes the removal of the County-owned portion of the dike that separates the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) from the impounded mangroves. Improved exchange of waters between the open water portion of the IRL and mangroves to the west will be a great benefit to wildlife habitat, especially fisheries, in this portion of the Lagoon. On January 9, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved Cost-Share Agreement Contract #38600 with the St. John’s River Water Management District (SJRWMD) for the SORCA restoration project. This Cost-share funding includes up to \$150,000 in reimbursement by the SJRWMD for the design and construction of the project. The agreement with the SJRWMD outlines a two-year schedule for completion of the project. Year 1 includes the design and permitting of the project, and Year 2 includes the construction and close out of the project.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

On April 18, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved Continuing Consulting Engineering Services Agreements for RFQ 2023015. Carter Associates, Inc. was approved to provide Infrastructure, Site/Civil, and Utilities services. Carter Associates, Inc. has provided staff with Work Order Number 1 – Continuing Consulting Engineering Services RFQ 2023015 to provide design assistance for the proposed impoundment restoration. Staff will be completing the environmental permitting for the project in-house. Staff is respectfully requesting that Carter Associates, Inc. Work Order Number 1 be approved to authorize completion of the proposed services.

FUNDING:

Funding for Work Order Number 1, in the amount of \$39,445.00, is provided in the Capital Improvement Element of the Comprehensive Plan (CIE) approved by the Board on February 6, 2024, through the Tree Ordinance/Parks/South Oslo Riverfront CA Impoundment Restoration, account number 11721072-066510-22002.

Account Description	Account Number	Amount
Tree Ordinance/Parks/South Oslo Riverfront CA Impoundment Restoration	11721072-066510-22002	\$39,445.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully requests that the Board of County Commissioners approve Carter Associates, Inc. Work Order Number 1 – Continuing Consulting Engineering Services RFQ 2023-015 for the South Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area Floodplain Restoration Project Design in the amount of \$39,445.00 and authorize the Chairman to execute the same after review and approval by the County Attorney for legal sufficiency.

ATTACHMENTS:

Carter Associates, Inc. Work Order Number 1 – Continuing Engineering Services RFQ 2023015, South Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area Floodplain Restoration Project Design

DISTRIBUTION:

Carter Associates, Inc.

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR APRIL 9, 2024