



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#17-1340

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: November 7, 2017

TITLE: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Letter of Support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant being Submitted by the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization and Port Everglades for the Intermodal Freight Connector Project

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter of support of the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant application being submitted by the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization and Port Everglades for the Intermodal Freight Connector Project to provide state-of-industry infrastructure and capacity necessary to ensure that Port Everglades continues as Florida's leading containerized cargo port.

Background

The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Port Everglades are partnering on a \$50 million application to the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program for the Intermodal Freight Connector Project (IFCP) which is critical to maintaining the ports role as a nationally significant global gateway for freight.

The IFCP will create the necessary berth and upland capacity to handle a greater number of the larger ships which will arrive once the navigation channels have deepened, as well as provide berthing space for additional smaller ships. Currently Port Everglades is not able to handle heavy loads due to depth constraints in and around the Port.

This \$480 million project leverages funding from multiple sources including the Florida Department of Transportation, Broward County, Port Everglades, and TIFIA and the subject grant if secured. The project is projected to provide a \$10.7 billion annual increase in economic activity related to the Port, and create 2,227 construction jobs in the near term and 5,529 regional jobs by the year 2030 when it is expected to be utilized at its maximum capacity.

Strategic Connections

This item is a Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 Initiative, included within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 7: Be a well-positioned City within the global economic and tourism markets of the South Florida region, leveraging our airports, port and rail connections.
- Objective 2: Facilitate a responsive and proactive business climate

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Prosperous*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - Draft Letter of Support

Exhibit 2 - Project Summary

Exhibit 3 - Resolution

Prepared by: Karen Warfel, Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Diana Alarcon, Transportation and Mobility