



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

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

DATE: March 18, 2014

TITLE: GRANT APPLICATION – Resolution approving the submittal of a grant application to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Boating Improvement Program for the George English Park Boat Ramp and Floating Dock Staging Installation, \$120,000

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the development of the George English Park Boat Ramp and Floating Dock Staging Installation.

Background

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), is charged with providing funding through competitive grants for projects designed to serve the needs of boaters and boating-related activities on coastal and/or inland waters within the State. The program may fund public boat ramps, public launching facilities, and other local boating-related activities.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is rebuilding the Sunrise Bridge resulting in the over water clearance increasing by approximately 13 feet. The original ramps located at George English were designed to accommodate smaller boats. The increased FDOT clearance will allow for use by larger vessels. The new design will rebuild the existing ramp to accommodate larger vessels. Incorporated in the design will be two new ADA-accessible floating staging docks and sewage pump-out systems.

If awarded, Florida Boating Improvement Program grant funds will be used for the design and permitting to improve public access. Grant funds will be matched with a \$50,000 local match. The match may be a combination of cash and in-kind services. Cash match expenditures may include Engineering and/or consultant services. The application deadline is April 04, 2014.

The grant is a reimbursable grant. Permits are required before the award of construction funds. The grant application requires the submission of a Resolution indicating Commission approval of the submission of the application.

Resource Impact

There is an anticipated positive impact to the City in the amount of \$120,000, which would allow for project implementation. There is not a current year budget impact. The use of park impact fee as a source of matching funds was presented to the Commission on March 18, 2014 Conference Agenda (CAM 14-0301).

Strategic Connections:

This grant application furthers the Public Places goals and objectives as is contained in Press Play Fort Lauderdale, Our City Our Strategic Plan 2018. Specifically:

- Goal 3: Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting, and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.

- Objective 1: Improve access to and enjoyment of our beach, Riverwalk, waterways, parks, and open spaces for everyone

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – Resolution

Prepared by: Jonathan Luscomb, Parks & Recreation Department

Department Director: Phil Thornburg, Parks & Recreation Department