



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

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

DATE: March 3, 2015

TITLE: Naturescape Irrigation Service Interlocal Agreement with Broward County
for \$57,380 Over A Five Year Period

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve of the NatureScape Irrigation Service Interlocal Agreement with Broward County in the amount of \$57,380 over a five year period and authorize execution of agreement by the City Manager.

Background

The NatureScape Irrigation Service (NIS) was conceptually developed and promoted by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) as well as several counties, including Broward County, for the purpose of promoting water conservation. The primary goal of the NIS program is to achieve water savings and protect water quality through more efficient irrigation operations and landscaping practices. Improved irrigation efficiency, appropriate landscaping choices, and best maintenance practices will save money, valuable resources, reduce runoff, improve water quality, and help in addressing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for nutrients.

The NIS is a specialized irrigation service offering a free water use audit to irrigation system owners. NIS staff evaluates the effectiveness of a property owner's irrigation system and then recommends efficiency improvements. The benefit is a savings in water, energy, time, and money for the user. Broward County is seeking participation to fund the NIS in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The County administers the program and prepares quarterly and annual reports. The implementation of the program will help the City meet water conservation regulatory requirements as outlined in the City's Consumptive Use Permit issued by the SFWMD.

The City has received this service from Broward County for the last five years. Since inception of the 2010-2015 NIS agreement, 74 evaluations have been completed with an actual water savings of 85,333,663 gallons, resulting in a 50.5% reduction in water use (Exhibit 2). The average reduction per site was 31.7%. This number will continue to

grow as year five of the current agreement concludes and year one of the proposed agreement commences.

Based on the proposed agreement (Exhibit 1), the City will have the opportunity to identify three properties each year for the NIS to perform an initial and follow-up site evaluation. In addition, the County will annually evaluate nine additional properties within the City. This will bring the total number of inspections to 15 per year or 75 over the term of the five year agreement. The City's cost for the five-year plan is \$57,380; Year 1: \$10,808, Year 2: \$11,132, Year 3: \$11,466, Year 4: \$11,810, Year 5: \$12,164.

Resource Impact

There is a current fiscal year impact to the City in the amount of \$10,808. There is a fiscal impact in the amount of \$46,574 for the four subsequent contract years. Funding for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2019 is contingent upon Commission approval of respective annual operating budgets.

<i>Funds available as of January 9, 2015</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	OBJECT CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Object Code)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Object Code)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
450-PBS690602-3299	Water and Sewer Environmental Resources	Services/Materials - Other Services	\$302,312	\$253,362	\$10,808
PURCHASE TOTAL ►					\$10,808

Strategic Connections

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

- Goal 2: Be a sustainable and resilient community.
- Objective 6: Secure our community’s water supply.
- Initiative 2: Participate in regional Long-Term Water Supply Strategies.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan 2035: We Are Ready*.

Attachments

- Exhibit 1: Interlocal Agreement
- Exhibit 2: NatureScape 2014 Irrigation Service Summary Report
- Exhibit 3: NatureScape Resolution

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