



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#24-0057

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: March 5, 2024

TITLE: Resolution Approving the Execution and Acceptance of the United States Department of Transportation Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Demonstration Program Grant Funds for Technical Assistance with the New River Crossing Project, in the Amount of \$974,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a Resolution and authorize the City Manager to execute the United States Department of Transportation Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) Grant Agreement, in substantially the form attached, and approve the acceptance of the grant funds on behalf of the City of Fort Lauderdale for funding technical assistance with the New River Crossing project.

Background

On May 30, 2023 the City of Fort Lauderdale submitted a proposal to the United States Department of Transportation for grant funding through the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator program for technical assistance with the New River Crossing project. The grant application requested \$2,500,000 to further analyze the economic development, environmental impacts, equity and public benefits, long term financing, quality of life, property impacts, railway safety, traffic and congestion, and real estate valuations associated with the New River Crossing alternatives.

On August 24, 2023, the City was notified that the City's application was reviewed and that \$974,000 was available for potential award. The City confirmed interest in receiving the funding and modified the deliverables to align with the potential funding amount of \$974,000.

On October 13, 2023, the United States Department of Transportation formally announced the fourteen Cohort Three awardees which included the City of Fort Lauderdale. City staff attended a one-day summit in November to learn more about the RIA program and expectations for the utilization of funds.

The proposed agreement defines the scope of the project and the associated deliverables which are limited to economic development, environmental review, equity/public benefit, property impacts, and traffic. The proposed agreement outlines the project timelines, reporting requirements, roles, and performance goals and measures.

The proposed agreement provides a 24-month period for the City to complete the work, which includes any time associated with procurement processes to onboard a consultant. The grant funding is provided on a reimbursement basis and is limited to the grant agreement terms, scope, and specific deliverables.

Resource Impact

This action will result in a positive fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$974,000, which will be appropriated to the account below contingent upon the approval of the March 5, 2024 Consolidated Budget Amendment, CAM# 24-0036.

Source:

Funds available as of February 2, 2024

ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME	CHARACTER CODE/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-129-9300-581-334-410-24GUSDOTRIA	Regional Infrastructure Accelerator-New River Study	FDOT TRANSPORTATION	\$0	\$0	\$974,000
TOTAL AMOUNT →					\$974,000

Use:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME	CHARACTER CODE/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-129-9300-581-30-3199-24GUSDOTRIA	Regional Infrastructure Accelerator-New River Study	SERVICES-MATERIALS / OTHER PROF SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$974,000
TOTAL AMOUNT →					\$974,000

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2024 Commission Priority*, advancing the Transportation and Infrastructure initiatives.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area
- Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network.

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

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040* Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area

- The Transportation & Mobility Element
- Goal 3. Ensure a cohesive transportation network among local, regional, and state regulatory institutions.

Related CAM

Commission Agenda Memo 24-0036

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Agreement

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Ben Rogers, Director and Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility