



TO: CRA Chairman & Board of Directors
Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, Executive Director

DATE: March 17, 2015

TITLE: Reimbursement to the City of Fort Lauderdale of \$215,282.11 for Florida Inland Navigation District Grant and Transfer of \$35,823.44 for a New Grant Match

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Directors approve reimbursing the City of Fort Lauderdale of \$215,282.11 from the Beach Community Redevelopment Area Trust Fund for the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Grant Phase-I Dredging Design and Permitting for the approaches to the Las Olas Marina, the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex and the Bahia Mar Yachting Center. Additionally, it is also recommended that the CRA Board of Directors approve a transfer of \$35,823.44 to the City for a new FIND grant match.

Background

FIND has committed to dredge the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) to a depth of 17 feet (Mean Low Water) beginning in Spring 2015 from Port Everglades to approximately 5,000 feet north of the Las Olas Bridge. The increased depth will allow larger vessels to access this portion of the ICW. The project is expected to take approximately 18 to 24 months to complete.

In March 2010, FIND presented a plan to the City Commission to dredge the ICW, and also discussed potential FIND grant opportunities to assist in design, permitting and the actual dredging of the connections from the ICW to City-owned marinas. FIND grants are awarded in two phases - Phase I includes design, engineering, and permitting elements, while Phase II includes construction of the project.

Recognizing the need to deepen the connection from the ICW to the marinas, the Commission directed staff to apply for two Phase I FIND grants to connect the Las Olas Marina, Bahia Mar and the Fort Lauderdale Aquatics Complex to the ICW.

The City received both grants, each requiring a City match. The first Phase I grant was for the Las Olas Marina and the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center connections to the ICW in the amount of \$110,860. The second Phase I was to connect the ICW Waterway to

Bahia Mar for \$144,337. All three sites, and that portion of the ICW lying east of the eastern channel line of the ICW, are within the Beach Community Redevelopment Area. The term of these reimbursement grants were two years each, with the option to extend for an additional year, if needed. To receive reimbursement from the grant, the City was required to complete design and permitting by September 30, 2013 and be under contract for construction by September 30, 2014. The City was unable to meet the September 30, 2014 deadline, and as a result, is not eligible for reimbursement for the work already completed, which totals \$215,282.11. CRA funds may be transferred to the City in order to pay for work completed and now not covered by the grant if the CRA Board finds that such reimbursement would be in furtherance of the Plan for the Area.

In October 2013, the City reapplied and was awarded two Phase I FIND Grants for the Las Olas Marina and Bahia Mar Marina, both with a September 30, 2016 deadline. Estimated schedules show this deadline also cannot be met. As a result, the City has notified FIND that we are withdrawing from the Interlocal Agreement and intends to reapply for the next grant cycle, which starts October, 2015. The CRA will provide the required City match of \$298,252, which was previously approved by the CRA Board of Directors on September 17, 2013. An additional budget transfer of \$35,823.44 from the DC Alexander Park Improvements Project is needed to satisfy the City match. Work previously completed is still valid and will be used in the continued effort to design and permit the dredging of the marina connections.

Resource Impact:

Funding to reimburse the City for this work and for the new FIND grant match will come from CRA funds available in the DC Alexander Park Improvements Project (P12016.346).

At the January 27, 2015 Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board meeting, the board unanimously recommended approval of this reimbursement.

The proposed expenditures are in compliance with the Fort Lauderdale Beach Community Redevelopment Plan’s goal to stimulate the redevelopment of the core area as a catalyst for revitalization of the entire Central Beach area, and the policy to expand the existing Las Olas Marina and marina-related uses.

Appropriate From:

<i>Funds available as of March 5, 2015</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	OBJECT CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Object Code)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Object Code)	AMOUNT
346-P12016.346- 6599	DC ALEXANDER PARK IMPROVEMENTS	CAPITAL OUTLAY/ CONSTRUCTION	\$1,070,670	\$982,000	\$251,105.55
APPROPRIATION TOTAL →					\$251,105.55

Appropriate To:

346-P11670.346-6599	NEW BAHIA MAR DREDGING	CAPITAL OUTLAY/ CONSTRUCTION	\$90,461	\$81,930.38	\$121,985.07
346-P11671.346-6599	LAS OLAS MARINA & AQUATICS COMPLEX DREDGING	CAPITAL OUTLAY/ CONSTRUCTION	\$207,790	\$180,497.38	\$129,120.48
APPROPRIATION TOTAL →					\$251,105.55

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included in the Public Places Cylinder of Excellence

- 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

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

Prepared by: Donald Morris, AICP, Economic Reinvestment Administrator

Department Director: Jenni Morejon, Sustainable Development