PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

FROM: Alexandra Rieman, Project Coordinator, Capital Improvements Division

THROUGH: Mona Gabriel, Division Director, Capital Improvements Division, Public Works

SUBJECT: Application for Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Grant Program for Crystal Beach Drainage Improvements

DATE: August 17, 2023

The Public Works Department is submitting a grant application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Grant Program. If selected, this grant will provide funding for the design and construction phase of the Crystal Beach Drainage Improvements Project. The project includes drainage capacity improvements to aid in stormwater abatement and flood control, along with enhancements to roadways at risk, and an optional living shoreline component that would address localized flooding, erosion and water quality. In 2008, the Pinellas County Public Works developed preliminary plans to address these issues in close coordination with local community associations. However, the project was not completed due to insufficient funding at that time. Addressing flood risks within this community continues to be a priority and County resources have been committed for project implementation.

Public Works is seeking grant funding in the amount of $6,162,000.00. There is a 50 percent match requirement ($6,162,000.00) and the grant is on a reimbursement basis. The match requirement has been secured through the Penny for Pinellas and is included in the proposed FY24-29 Capital Improvement Plan. Funding will begin in the design phase which is currently underway. The construction phase will be in FY2026 -FY2027.

The Capital Improvements Division of Public Works is recommending approval of the grant application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Grant Program for the Crystal Beach Drainage Improvements Project. The grant application deadline is Friday, September 1st, 2023.

Kelli Hammer Levy

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Approved