



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 17-2006A, Version: 1

Subject:

Ratification of the County Administrator’s approval of Board Budget Amendment No. 7 supplementing the FY 2017 General Fund Budget for unanticipated expenditures due to Hurricane Irma.

Recommended Action:

Ratification by the Board of County Commissioners of the County Administrator’s approval of Board Budget Amendment No. 7 appropriating funds from Reserves - Contingency to the Emergency Events cost center and program within the General Fund for unanticipated expenditures due to Hurricane Irma.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public’s resources

Summary:

This budget amendment realigns funds from the Reserves program to the Emergency Events program within the General Fund to pay for unanticipated expenditures related to debris removal, fuel costs, and overtime resulting from Hurricane Irma. The total Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) impact to General Fund for Hurricane Irma is estimated at \$8.9M. Of this amount, \$2.9M is due to disaster-related pay and overtime for BCC employees, \$1.8M in overtime and \$68,500 in fuel for the Sheriff, \$3.5M for debris removal, and \$625,000 for other operating supplies including signs, sandbags, small tools, equipment rental, and fuel. Expenses are partially offset by \$1.9M in lapse within the General Fund.

For FY18, the impact to the General Fund is expected to be an additional \$21.1M in Irma-related expenses such as debris removal, signal and intersection repairs, and street sign replacement.

Department	FY17 Estimate	FY18 Estimate	Description
Multiple Departments	\$2,871,500.00	\$0.00	Payroll/ OT Irma
Public Works	\$3,500,000.00	\$13,484,000.00	Debris Removal
Public Works	\$160,000.00	\$5,100,000.00	Intersection Rebuilds, Signal Replacement, Signs, Road Repair, Equipment Rental
Multiple Departments	\$465,000.00	\$2,536,000.00	Small Tools, Cleaning, Equipment Rental, Building and Equipment Repair
Sheriff	\$1,830,000.00	\$0.00	Overtime

Sheriff	\$68,500.00	\$0.00	Fuel/Supplies
Lapse Available	(\$1,900,000.00)	N/A	
TOTAL	\$6,995,000.00	\$21,120,000.00	

Background Information:

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma passed through Pinellas County. The County suffered significant damage from high winds, particularly in the form of widespread power outages and storm debris. Resolution 17-58, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on September 7, 2017, declared a state of local emergency and delegated authority to the County Administrator to appropriate funds from reserves as necessary to support emergency and response in a timely manner. Resolution 17-59, adopted September 14, 2017, extended the state of local emergency through September 21. On September 26, 2017, the County Administrator disclosed to the BCC that additional amendments would be reviewed and approved by the County Administrator through delegated authority, and brought forth for final ratification at a later Board meeting.

The Emergency Events program is used to consolidate expenditures incurred during an event to allow for accurate tracking of those expenses in support of reimbursement of eligible expenditures from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Grant Program.

Fiscal Impact:

This amendment will realign \$7.0M from the Reserves program to the Emergency Events program within the General Fund. A federal major disaster declaration has been established to apply for the public assistance grant funding, but the amounts and timing for reimbursement are not yet known. This amendment is not consistent with the FY17 Estimate used during development of the FY18 Budget.

The overall impact of Hurricane Irma on the General Fund is estimated at \$30.0M. These costs will be offset by General Fund Reserves until the County is reimbursed by FEMA. As a result, General Fund Reserves are expected to decrease below the target level of 15.0% to 10.2% during FY18.

Staff Member Responsible:

Cecilia McCorkell, Management and Budget Manager, Office of Management and Budget

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

Board Budget Amendment No. BA-17-07
FEMA Reimbursement Table - Irma
Resolution 17-58