



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 24-0163A, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Bridge Investment Program grant application to the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration for the replacement of Beckett Bridge over Whitcomb Bayou in the City of Tarpon Springs.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval of the Bridge Investment Program grant application to the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration for the replacement of Beckett Bridge over Whitcomb Bayou in the City of Tarpon Springs.

- Existing bridge has reduced capacity due to ongoing deterioration and is classified as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete.
- Requested grant funding is \$21,313,600.00 (80%); anticipated County match is \$5,328,400.00 (20%). County match will be funded through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Program and from the Florida Department of Transportation District 7 Advance Reimbursement Agreement (Bridge Replacement Funds).
- Request authority for the County Administrator to approve submission of the application on behalf of the Board.
- Funding for this grant application is budgeted in the Capital Improvement Plan, under Beckett Bridge Replacement 001037A, which is currently funded by the Local Option Sales Surtax (Penny for Pinellas) and Multimodal Impact Fees, funded in FY24-FY26.
- Application deadline for submission is March 19, 2024.

County PID: 001037A; Total project cost approximately \$26,642,000.00, with anticipated grant funding received being \$21,313,600.00; County match is \$5,328,400.00; Authorize the County Administrator to sign and submit the grant application.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare  
2.5 Enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

4.4 Invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs

4.5 Provide safe and effective transportation systems to support the efficient flow of motorists, commerce, and regional connectivity

### **Summary:**

The Board is authorizing the County Administrator to submit the Grant Application for the replacement of the Beckett Bridge in the City of Tarpon Springs due to time constraints. The Application is currently being prepared by the County's consultant, with anticipated completion by

March 14, 2024. The final completed Grant Application will then come back to the Board through a future Legistar item.

The existing bridge has reduced capacity due to ongoing deterioration and is classified as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete. The Bridge is currently posted for loads limits. Reevaluation (June 2021) of the Bridge condition resulted in the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) rating substructure rating dropping from 6 (satisfactory condition) to 4 (poor condition) on a scale from 0 to 9. This reduction in rating resulted in a Sufficiency Rating of 18.1 on a scale of 0-100.

The proposed new Beckett Bridge will meet all current design and safety standards, provide enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and eliminate the need for frequent repairs.

**Background Information:**

Beckett Bridge connects areas west and north of the Whitcomb Bayou to downtown Tarpon Springs and provides access to major north/south arterials including Alt U.S. 19 and U.S. 19 for residents during hurricane evacuation.

A total of \$9.62 billion were made available through the USDOT. Funding will be granted to selected projects that involve bridge replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, and protection. The deadline for the grant application to be submitted is March 19, 2024.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The total cost of the project is approximately \$26,642,000.00. Requested BIP funding is \$21,313,600.00 (80%); anticipated County match is \$5,328,400.00 (20%). The local match will be funded the FY 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Program and from the FDOT District 7 Advance Reimbursement Agreement (Bridge Replacement Funds).

Funding for this grant application is budgeted in the Capital Improvement Plan, under Beckett Bridge Replacement 001037A, which is currently funded by the Local Option Sales Surtax (Penny for Pinellas) and Multimodal Impact Fees (MMIF), funded in FY24-FY26.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

**Partners:**

USDOT  
FHWA  
FDOT  
City of Tarpon Springs

**Attachments:**

Draft Application Project Narrative Form  
Draft Application Budget Narrative Form  
Draft Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)  
Draft Application Lobbying Form  
Draft Application Disclosure of Lobbying Activities  
Notice of Funding Opportunity  
OMB Intent to Apply

Project Location Map