



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 20-2385A, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Grant agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for funding in support of the Philippe Park Seawall Enhancement project through the National Coastal Resilience Fund.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the grant agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for funding in support of the Philippe Park Seawall Enhancement project through the National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF).

- Project focus is baseline water quality and wave energy monitoring, site assessment, and preliminary design of approximately 2,850 linear feet of seawall enhancement/living shoreline options at Philippe Park.
- The grant provides funding of \$130,000.00 from NFWF NCRF, with a proposed matching contribution from County of \$196,000.00 for a total project of \$326,000.
- The County's matching contribution is comprised of a \$144,000.00 cash match from an existing agreement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, a \$9,000.00 cash match from County capital funding and \$43,000.00 in-kind services from the Public Works Department.

NFWF NCRF Agreement No. 0318.20.068852; grant funding in the amount of \$130,000.00; grant period is January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022. Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

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

Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship

3.2 Preserve and manage environmental lands, beaches, parks, and historical assets

3.3 Protect and improve the quality of our water, air, and other natural resources

Summary:

The purpose of this grant award is funding assistance for baseline monitoring and preliminary site assessment and design to sixty percent (60%) of the Philippe Park Seawall Enhancement Project. This is a demonstration project which includes options to increase coastal resilience, reduce seawall deterioration, expand aquatic habitat, and increase public education and awareness throughout the County. The required match will be in-kind and cash from components already planned and obligated for the current Philippe Park Living Shoreline project, funded in part from TBEP and from the Parks and Conservation Resources (PCR) Department and the Division of Environmental Management (DEM), as well as staff time from DEM for monitoring, outreach, and managing/participating in a

technical workgroup. Educational signage, brochures, and surveys will be included to increase public awareness of coastal resilience issues and living shorelines/seawall enhancement options.

Background Information:

The Philippe Park Seawall Enhancement Project consists of site assessment and preliminary design of 2,850 linear feet of seawall enhancement options at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor, with a goal of demonstrating and monitoring several treatments to compare resiliency against storm surges and sea level rise, creating salt marsh and oyster reef habitat, and assessing cost-effectiveness and applicability for implementation along other critical, hardened shorelines in Pinellas County. The immediate outcome of the project will be 60% design of several different living shoreline treatments, both traditional and innovative, along a concrete seawall, baseline monitoring, creation of an effective decision-support tool and performance matrix to assess future living shoreline projects, and outreach about coastal resilience and living shorelines. The ultimate outcome will be installation of the chosen treatments based on input from a technical working group, increased aquatic habitat, public education, long-term monitoring, and application throughout the region. The anticipated project completion date is April 30, 2022.

Fiscal Impact:

The grant agreement is for project 004178A Philippe Park Seawall Replacement in the Capital Improvement Program, Physical Environment function, funded by the Local Infrastructure Sales Tax (Penny for Pinellas) and included in the FY21-26 Capital Improvement Plan. The grant was not included in the project's budget. However, it can be included during the Fiscal Year 2022 budget process to offset the existing Penny for Pinellas funding.

Total funding for this project is \$326,000.00. The amount includes \$130,000.00 of grant funding from NFWF NCRF. Matching contributions are from project 004178B Philippe Park Living Shoreline: \$144,000.00 cash match from an agreement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, a \$9,000.00 cash match, and \$43,000.00 in-kind services from the Public Works Department.

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| County (cash): | \$ 9,000.00 |
| County (in-kind): | \$ 43,000.00 |
| NFWF NCRF: | \$130,000.00 |
| TBEP | \$144,000.00 |
| | |
| Total Project Cost | \$326,000.00 |

Staff Member Responsible:

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

Partners:

NFWF NCRF
TBEP

Attachments:

Agreement
Project Location Map