



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 24-0628A, Version: 1

Subject:

Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior for the Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center Water Resource Investigations.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Department of Interior for the Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center Water Resource Investigations.

- USGS has constructed and installed data gathering stations at various locations throughout the County to collect continuous monitoring data, including flood stages, discharge, and rainfall.
- Data is utilized to meet the County's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System stormwater permit water quality requirements, watershed planning, stormwater modeling, and flood forecasting.
- USGS will manage and perform the work for a total cost of \$308,700.00 for the one-year period of May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025.
- Funding is consistent with and included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Adopted Budget and FY25 proposed budget. Current year funding is budgeted with \$214,343.00 in the Surface Water Utility Fund and funding of \$22,631.00 in the General Fund for a total County contribution of \$236,974.00. The USGS will contribute \$71,726.00 that will not flow through the County's Budget.

Agreement No. 24MCJFA0030; Total project cost is \$308,700.00 for the period May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Strategic Plan:

Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship

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

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

Summary:

The purpose of this JFA is to continue funding the joint effort with the USGS to collect scientific data used to develop watershed management plans, design surface water management projects, and aid in compliance with the County's NPDES stormwater permit. The USGC will manage and perform the work. This agreement is updated annually.

Background Information:

The USGS has constructed and installed data gathering stations at various locations throughout the County. These stations collect continuous monitoring data including flood stages, discharge, and rainfall. This information combined with water quality data allows the County to report pollutant loading information to meet Federal and State water quality requirements; support the planning and design of systems to address flooding and is used in the development of watershed models which aids in the understanding of our surface waters and the overall function of the stormwater system. The Water Discipline Data Collection Program has been an ongoing program since 1999.

Fiscal Impact:

Total cost of this countywide effort is \$308,700.00 for the one (1) year period of May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025. The County will contribute \$236,974.00, and the USGS will contribute \$71,726.00.

The County's Contribution of funding is included in the Public Works Operating Budgets:

Surface Water Fund	\$214,343.00
General Fund	\$22,631.00
Total of County's Contribution	\$236,974.00

Staff Member Responsible:

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

Partners:

USGS

Attachments:

Agreement