



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 23-1995A, Version: 1

Subject:

Grant funding agreement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program for Joe's Creek Greenway Restoration Phase 2.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the grant funding agreement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) for Joe's Creek Greenway Restoration Phase 2.

- Agreement provides \$454,900.00 in TBEP funding, as a pass-through from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, with no required match from the County.
- Project area focuses on lower portion of Joe's Creek bounded by Park Boulevard to the north, 71st Street North to the east, 54th Avenue North to the south, and Park Street to the west.
- Project will address nuisance vegetation overgrowth and result in the design and permitting of additional stormwater controls, including green infrastructure techniques, to better absorb nutrients and other pollutants that flow through the Joe's Creek watershed.
- Funding for the agreement is included in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Adopted Budget (anticipated \$150,000.00) within Surface Water Assessment Fund and will be requested in FY25 and FY26 Annual Budgets up to the total reimbursable amount.

Agreement provides funding in the amount of \$454,900.00; Agreement term ends September 30, 2027; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Strategic Plan:

Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship

3.1 Implement green technologies and practices where practical

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

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Summary:

Grant Agreement provides \$454,900.00 in TBEP funding, as a pass-through from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, with no required match from the County. The project will address nuisance vegetation overgrowth and result in the design and permitting of additional stormwater controls, including green infrastructure techniques, to better absorb nutrients and other pollutants that flow through the Joe's Creek watershed.

The project will also engage the public, including underserved and overburdened communities in the Lealman area, to identify and achieve consensus on desired project benefits. These planned improvements are intended supplement the other stormwater upgrades to this watershed involving flood protection and water quality projects included in the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail.

Background Information:

The project area focuses on the lower portion of Joe's Creek and is bounded by Park Boulevard to the north, 71st Street North to the east, 54th Avenue North to the south, and Park Street to the west. Four sub-areas have been identified: Area 1) Limits of Nuisance Species Removal and Drainage Upgrades (eastern area); Area 2) 24-Acre Pond Upgrades; Area 3) Salt Tern & Mosquito Ditch Restoration Limits (western area); and Area 4) Limits of Joes Creek Dredging. The County will solicit a consultant(s) to administer these services.

Fiscal Impact:

Total estimated cost of the project is \$454,900.00, and TBEP will reimburse up to \$454,900.00. The County is not required to provide a match. Funding for reimbursement in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 is available in the Department of Public Works Surface Water Assessment Fund, Total Maximum Daily Loads Cost Center. Reimbursement funds from TBEP will be included in the FY25 and FY26 Requested Annual Budgets.

Staff Member Responsible:

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works Department

Partners:

TBEP

Attachments:

Agreement

Project Location Map