



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 17-630D, Version: 1

Subject:

First Amendment to the Funding Agreement with Clearwater Ferry Services, Incorporated to provide British Petroleum Economic Settlement Funds to improve waterborne transportation services.

Recommended Action:

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the First Amendment to the Funding Agreement with Clearwater Ferry Services, Incorporated (Clearwater Ferry) to provide British Petroleum (BP) Funds to improve waterborne transportation services.

Strategic Plan:

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

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

Summary:

The First Amendment to the Funding Agreement is needed to clarify changes in expenditures for the project. In accordance with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners (Board) of BP projects and associated funding on December 13, 2016, the First Amendment to the Funding Agreement with Clearwater Ferry will support the purchase and installation of equipment to improve service on the Clearwater Ferry.

Background/Explanation:

The Funding Agreement with Clearwater Ferry was executed March 9, 2017 to improve service on the Clearwater Ferry, develop a Marine Architect Report to support repowering a vessel, and provide two Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps for Clearwater Ferry vessels to increase accessibility to ferry services. Repowering of the vessel as originally conceived was determined to be infeasible upon further review and consultation with the Coast Guard. A Marine Architect Report is no longer needed, and expenditures for improving waterborne transportation services have been adjusted. The changes in the expenditures have no fiscal impact and will accomplish the original goal of improving service on the Clearwater Ferry.

Additionally, the City of Clearwater has initiated infrastructure improvements to the City-owned docks where Clearwater Ferry operates. The exact nature of the changes to the docks and timeline for completion are not known at this time. To avoid incompatibility with future dock infrastructure, Clearwater Ferry is postponing the installation of ADA ramps until the City's project is complete. The First Amendment to the Funding Agreement stipulates that Clearwater Ferry will ensure that all waterborne transportation services, vessels, and facilities are ADA compliant by December 31, 2018. Through this subsequent condition to the Funding Agreement, accessibility to Clearwater Ferry vessels will be improved and the goals of the original agreement will be achieved.

Fiscal Impact:

No impact to original Agreement.

The Funding Agreement provides funding of \$80,000.00 from the \$7.1 million BP Economic Settlement Funds. The funding has been appropriated for this purpose in the FY2017 Budget. The County shall have no obligations related to maintenance, operation, and/or any other activity yielding a fiscal impact.

Delegated Authority:

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this agreement is granted under Resolution No. 16-90.

Staff Member Responsible:

Caroline E. Lanford, Principal Planner, Planning

Partners:

Clearwater Ferry

Attachments:

First Amendment

Original Funding Agreement