



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 21-1809A, Version: 1

Subject:

First Amendment to the Grant Funding Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Red Tide Management for and within the County.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the First Amendment to the Grant Funding Agreement (Agreement) with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for Red Tide Management for and within the County.

- FDEP grant RT001 provides funding for clean-up of biological debris due to red tide.
- The First Amendment extends contract expiration and adds additional funding.
- Funding allows County to reimburse municipalities within the County for Red Tide cleanup.
- County Administrator approved the initial Agreement on July 16, 2021 with ratification by the Board of County Commissioners on August 24, 2021.
- No matching funds are required. The additional funding is intended to reimburse county contracted expenses and waived solid waste disposal fees/costs.

FDEP Contract No. RT001; additional funding in the amount of \$2,097,500.00 for an Agreement total of \$3,000,000.00; Agreement term extended ninety days to January 15, 2022.

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

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

Summary:

This First Amendment provides for an additional ninety (90) days to complete services providing a one hundred eighty (180) day total. The Amendment also provides additional funding in the amount of \$2,097,500 for a grant agreement amount of \$3,000,000.00 and replaces the previous Grant Work Plan. The Amendment allows the County to receive reimbursement funds for services performed by any municipality within the County and are a part of an interlocal agreement for Biological Debris removal services.

The Agreement provides reimbursement for response to the impact of red tide within the County. Funding has been utilized for red tide debris removal in offshore waters, on the beaches, within the Intracoastal Waterway and associated canals, as well as Tampa Bay.

Background Information:

In June 2021, reports of fish kill associated with red tide in the County were brought to the attention of FDEP. The Florida Legislature appropriated funds to FDEP which may be used to support local governments in cleaning beaches and coastal areas. This effort will minimize impact of red tide to residents and visitors and alleviate effects from the red tide algae blooms, which may cause harm to Florida's environment and fragile ecosystems, including beaches and wildlife.

Fiscal Impact:

This First Amendment provides additional State funding of \$2,097,500.00 for total grant funds of \$3,000,000.00 through reimbursement for expenditures incurred. There is no match required for this funding. Neither the grant reimbursement revenue nor the associated expenditures were anticipated in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Adopted Budget. However, they are consistent with the estimates included in the FY 2022 Tentative Budget. A Budget resolution to recognize and appropriate these grant funds will be brought forward for consideration at the September 21, 2021 Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Staff Member Responsible:

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

Partners:

FDEP

Attachments:

First Amendment to Agreement
Agreement