Agenda Item **#: 3.M.7**.

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: March 23, 2010

[X] Consent [] Regular [] Ordinance [] Public Hearing

Department: <u>Parks and Recreation</u> Submitted By: <u>Parks and Recreation Department</u> Submitted For: <u>Parks and Recreation Department</u>

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to: A) adopt a Resolution authorizing the County to accept the reassignment of the Florida Department of Transportation's South Bay Transportation Enhancement Grant FM#416139-1-58-01 from the City of South Bay to Palm Beach County; B) authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute the subsequent Florida Department of Transportation's South Bay Transportation Enhancement Funding Agreement, as well as task assignments, certifications, standard forms, or amendments to the Agreement that do not change the scope of work or terms and conditions of the Agreement; and C) authorize the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to serve as a Liaison Agent with the Florida Department of Transportation.

Summary: In 2003, the City of South Bay applied for and was awarded a \$500,000 Transportation Enhancement grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail Gateway Trailhead Enhancements project. The grant application requested funding for construction of the Crossroads Depot, renovations of the Railroad Cottage, South Florida Water Management District design, engineering, and permitting for the marina and landscaping. The City of South Bay's grant application indicated that \$795,800, or 61% of the total project cost would come from local funds. Due to budgetary constraints and rising project costs, the city returned the partially completed Depot building and property to the County in 2009, and requested that FDOT reassign the grant to the County. The amount of the grant remains at \$500,000, however, no matching funds are now required. The scope of the grant has been modified to include renovation of the historic railroad cottage; construction of sidewalks and pathways to interconnect the Crossroads Depot; the South Bay RV Campground; the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST); and to construct associated pedestrian lighting, landscaping, benches, and bike racks. Total project construction can be completed for the \$500,000 in grant funding. FDOT requires a Resolution authorizing the County to accept the reassignment of the Florida Department of Transportation's South Bay Transportation Enhancement Grant FM#416139-1-58-01 from the City of South Bay to Palm Beach County prior to their issuing a grant funding Agreement for the project. Once FDOT provides the Agreement, the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department will execute the Agreement on behalf of the County and staff will prepare a receive and file agenda item to enter the Agreement into the public records. District 6 (AH)

Background and Justification: On June 25, 2000, the City and County executed a 30-year lease agreement (R2000-1050) that required the City of South Bay to design, construct, and operate the Crossroads Depot and Marketplace within two years of the effective date of the Agreement. The City began construction of the depot project in 2003, but was unable to fully complete development of the project due to escalating costs and a lack of funds. On April 7, 2009, by mutual consent, the City and the County approved a Lease Termination Agreement (R2009-0606). The County is now in the process of completing construction of the Crossroads Depot building for a community recreation center, renovation of the historic railroad cottage as a park manager/tourist information office, and site infrastructure that will allow it to be used as an open-air greenmarket. The FDOT grant will assist the County in completing this project that will serve as an economic stimulus by attracting tourism and boaters who spend money that would not ordinarily come into the area. The depot site is also the location of one of four proposed Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST) trailhead kiosks to be constructed in the Glades area by the County's Office of Economic Development.

Attachments:

- 1. Resolution
- 2. City of South Bay's FDOT Grant Application (FM#416139-1-58-01)

Recommended by:	Dennie Illene	(2-)(-10)
Recommended by.	Department Director	Date
Approved by:	Ale	3/16/10
	Assistant County Administrator	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary	of Fiscal	Impact:			
Fiscal Years	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Capital Expenditures Operating Costs External Revenues Program Income (County) In-Kind Match (County) NET FISCAL IMPACT # ADDITIONAL FTE	-0-	<u>-0-</u> <u>-0-</u> <u>-0-</u> ee be <i>low</i>	-0- -0- -0-	-0- -0- -0-	-0-) -0- -0- -0-
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative) Is Item Included in Curren Budget Account No.:	Fund	Yes _ Department _ _ Program _M	 NoX Unit		
B. Recommended Sourc	es of Fund	s/Summary of F	Fiscal Impact	:	

There is no fiscal impact at this time. Should this grant be reassigned and approved, a budget amendment will be brought before the Board for approval. The additional operating costs generated by this project are estimated at \$15,000 per year and will be absorbed by the annual operating budget of the Parks Maintenance Division.

reanila C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

ontract Development anð

B. Legal Sufficiency:

Attorne Assistant C

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

REVISED 10/95 ADM FORM 01

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RESOLUTION NO. 2010____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THE ACCEPTANCE AUTHORIZING OF Δ **FLORIDA** TRANSPORTATION SOUTH OF DEPARTMENT BAY **TRANSPORATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT FM#416139-1-**58-01 WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY AWARDED THE CITY OF SOUTH BAY TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD **OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**

WHEREAS, the County is interested in completing improvements at the South Bay Depot and South Bay RV Campground; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bay was awarded a \$500,000 Transportation Enhancement grant for construction of the Crossroads Depot, renovations of the historic railroad cottage, design engineering and permitting for the marina and construction of pedestrian related facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bay was providing \$795,800 in matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bay has terminated their Lease Agreement with the County and has requested the County construct the grant related improvements; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for \$500,000 without matching funds, for renovations to the historic railroad cottage and construction of sidewalks and pathways to interconnect the Crossroads depot, the South Bay RV Campground and the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST) along with associated pedestrian lighting, landscaping, benches and bike racks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein

by reference.

Section 2. The Director of the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department is hereby authorized to execute the funding Agreement associated with the Transportation Enhancement grant at South Bay R.V. Campground and the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail, as well as task assignments, certifications, standard forms, or amendments to the Agreement that do not change the scope of work or terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Section 3. The provisions of this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption hereof.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner_____

who moved its adoption. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner

_____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

COMMISSIONER BURT AARONSON, CHAIR COMMISSIONER KAREN T. MARCUS, VICE CHAIR COMMISSIONER JOHN F. KOONS COMMISSIONER SHELLEY VANA COMMISSIONER STEVEN L. ABRAMS COMMISSIONER JESS R. SANTAMARIA COMMISSIONER PRISCILLA A. TAYLOR

The Chair thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this

_____day of ______, 20___.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Florida BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHARON R. BOCK CLERK & COMPTROLLER

By:

Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By__

Assistant County Attorney

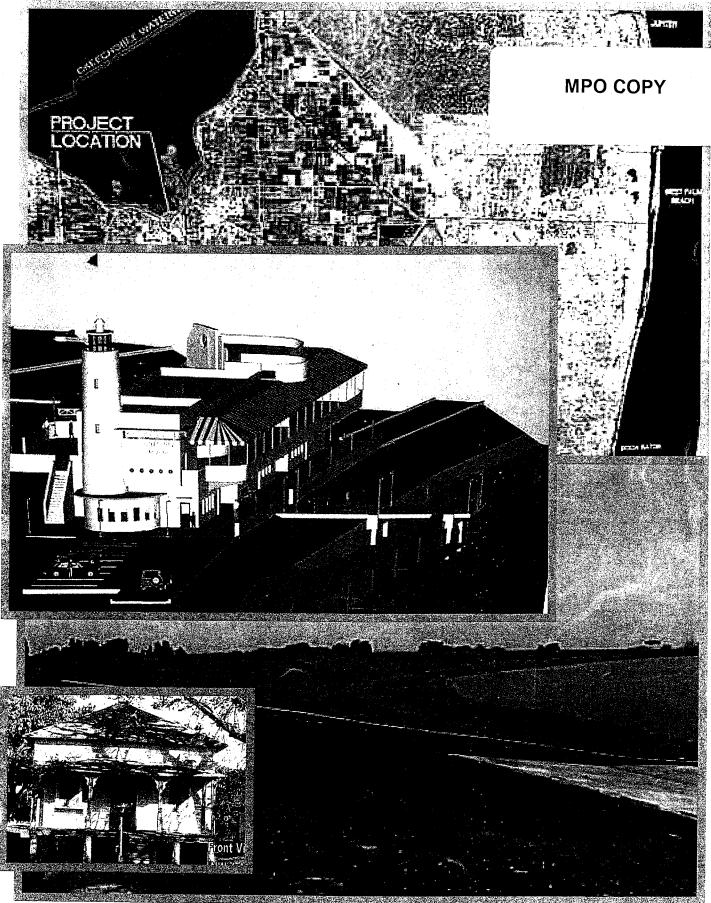
Dennis L. Eshleman, Director Parks and Recreation Department

Page 2 of 2

By-

Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail Southern Gateway

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Historic Transportation Facilities



STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SAMPLE APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

Project Title: Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail Southern Gateway Trailhead Enhancements

Project Sponsor (municipal, county, state, or federal agency, or tribal council):

The City of South Bay

Contact Virginia Walker

_ Title<u>City Manager</u>

Address 335 SW 2nd Avenue South Bay, Florida 33493

Phone <u>561-996-6751</u> FAX <u>561-996-7950</u>

Priority (relative to other applications submitted by the Project Sponsor). N/A

Name of Applicant (If other than Project Sponsor): N/A

1. Qualifying Enhancement Activities:

Check the enhancement activity that the proposed project will address. (NOTE: Checking all activities possible does not ensure or increase eligibility. Each activity checked must meet all criteria listed for that activity in Appendix A of FDOT Procedure #525-030-300, Transportation Enhancement Projects).

- X Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles
- The provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrian and bicyclists
- Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites
- Scenic or historic highway programs, (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities)
- Landscaping and other scenic beautification
- Historic preservation
- X Rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals)
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails)
- Control and removal of outdoor advertising
 - Archaeological planning and research
 - Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehiclecaused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity
 - Establishment of transportation museums

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METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORG. PALM BEACH COUNTY

2. Project Description:

Use additional sheets as necessary to respond to the following:

- (a) What type of work is being proposed? (Check all that apply)
- Planning Activities
- Project Development and Environmental Studies
- Engineering and Final Plans Preparation Work
- _____ Right of Way Acquisition
- X Construction
- X Construction Engineering and Inspection Activities
- (b) Describe how the proposed project is related to the intermodal transportation system by either function, proximity or impact. (One or more may apply).
- (c) Where is the project located (and what are the termini, if appropriate)? Include location map.
- (d) Summarize any special characteristics of project. Provide typical section drawings for appropriate projects.
- (e) Describe the project's existing right of way ownerships. This description shall identify when the right of way was acquired and how ownership is documented (i.e. plats, deeds, prescriptions, certified surveys).
- (f) Describe any proposed right of way acquisition, including expected matching fund source, limitations on fund use or availability, and who will acquire and retain ownership of proposed right of way.
- (g) Describe any related project work phases that are already complete or currently underway.
- (h) Other specific project information that should be considered.

3. Project Implementation Information:

Attach documentation as exhibits to this application.

Please see Exhibit A, 3 (a)-(e).

- (a) Describe the proposed method of performing (i.e. contract or in-house) and administering (i.e. local or state) each work phase of the project. If it is proposed that the project be administered by a governmental entity other than the Department of Transportation, the agency must be certified to administer Federal Aid projects in accordance with the department's *Local Agency Program Manual* (topic no. 525-010-300).
- (b) Describe any public (and private, if applicable) support of the proposed project. (Examples include: written endorsement, formal declaration, resolution, financial donations or other appropriate means).
- (c) Describe the proposed ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the project when it is completed.
- (d) Describe source of matching funds and any restrictions on availability.
- (e) Other specific implementation information that should be considered.

1. Project Cost:

What is the total estimated cost of the work requested to be funded as an enhancement project through this application?

Planning Activities.		\$
Project Development and Environmental Stud	ies.	\$
Engineering and Final Plans Preparation Wor	k.	\$
Right of Way Acquisition.		\$
Construction.		\$475,000
Construction Engineering and Inspection Activ	vities.	\$
Other. (Describe)		\$
т	OTAL:	\$
How will the project be funded?		4.

FDOT Enhancement Funds \$500,000 + Local \$795,800 = Total \$1,295,800

FDOT Enhancement Funds <u>39</u>% + Local <u>61</u>% = <u>100%</u>

CERTIFICATION OF PROJECT SPONSOR

I hereby certify that the proposed project herein described is supported by ______ The City of South Bay, (municipal, county, state or federal agency, or tribal council)

and that said entity will: (1) provide any required funding match; (2) enter into a maintenance agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation; (3) comply with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Acquisition Policies Act for any Right of Way actions required for the project, and (4) support other actions necessary to fully implement the proposed project. I further certify that the estimated costs included herein are reasonable and understand that significant increases in these costs could cause the project to be removed from the Florida Department of Transportation work program.

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Signatur	e				

Virginia Walker Name (please type or print)

City Manager	
Title	
5/2/03	
Date	

EXHIBIT A LAKE OKEECHOBEE SCENIC TRAIL SOUTHERN GATEWAY TRAILHEAD DOCUMENTATION FOR TEA-21 REQUEST

2. Project Description

(b) Describe how the proposed project is related to the intermodal transportation system by either function, proximity or impact. (One or more may apply).

The proposed project is related to the intermodal transportation system by function and proximity. The historic Railroad Cottage is related by function because it was built near the FEC Railroad line to house railroad workers and it is planned as a regional transportation history museum, with displays funded by \$75,000 in TEA-21 monies. The Cottage is also in close proximity to the transportation system because it has been relocated to the Crossroads Lake Depot site, next to the County RV Park fronting SR 25/US 27. The Marina is also related by function because it serves as a launching area for boaters to cross the state through Lake Okeechobee via the Rim Canal, a branch of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Both project components are related to the Intermodal transportation system by proximity because they are connected to the Herbert Hoover Dike, which will soon be paved by FDOT as the Lake Okeechobee segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail, known as LOST.

(c) Where is the project located (and what are the termini, if appropriate)? Include location map.

As shown in the attached location maps (Exhibit 2c-1 & 2), the project area extends from the south shore of Lake Okeechobee across the Herbert Hoover Dike, including access roads and Levee Road, to the Depot parcel, part of the Palm Beach County RV Campground bordering SR25/US 27, about 1.3 miles west of the intersection of SR 80 and SR 25/US 27.

(d) Summarize any special characteristics of project. Provide typical section drawings for appropriate projects.

Please see Exhibit 2d (6 sheets 11x 17) for a conceptual plan of this project. The proposed project has the following special characteristics:

- A multi-purpose recreation and education center serving bicyclists and pedestrians with facilities including lockers, restrooms with showers, ramps, seating, lighting, parking, and signage;
- A historic Railroad Workers Cottage, eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, first phase renovation underway for reuse as a regional transportation museum, with interior displays being designed with a \$75,000 TEA-21 allocation (see Exhibit 2d (color photos) for conceptual design of display); Phase 2 renovation not funded, due to state budget cuts;
- Implementation of LOST Master Plan (see Exhibit 2d), which incorporated by reference the conceptual plan for the Depot site and proposed enhanced bicycle/ pedestrian access for the entire project area;
- South Florida Water Management District design, engineering, and permitting assistance for the Marina;
- Matching funds available or pending from numerous sources;
- Landscaping visible from LOST; and
- Within one mile of the headquarters of the pending regional Lake Okeechobee tourist train, *the Black Gold Express*.

1014

(e) Describe the project's existing right of way ownerships. This description shall identify when the right of way was acquired and how ownership is documented (i.e. plats, deeds, prescriptions, certified surveys).

The project area includes the "Depot" site, a 1.3-acre parcel owned by Palm Beach County and leased to the City of South Bay in 2000 for 30 years (County lease R 2000 1050), and the Marina, a 21-acre piece of state-owned land leased to the City of South Bay in 2002 (state lease # 4385, ends 4/17/2052).

(f) Describe any proposed right of way acquisition, including expected matching fund source, limitations on fund use or availability, and who will acquire and retain ownership of proposed right of way.

No right of way acquisition is proposed because the City of South Bay already leases the two parks from Palm Beach County and the state, respectively.

(g) Describe any related project work phases that are already complete or currently underway.

Construction drawings were completed for the Marina in April 2003, and federal and state permits are anticipated by August 2003. First phase construction will be competitively bid in accordance with federal and state guidelines and will begin in October 2003. At the Depot site, a building to house retail shops was constructed in July 2002, and water, sewer, and some decorative lighting will be installed by August 2003. Renovation of the Cottage, the first phase of which was funded by a state preservation grant, began with asbestos abatement in April 2003 and relocation of this historic building to the RV Park site in May 2003. In June, a team of museum professionals will begin designing the TEA-21 funded interpretive displays, funding of which was authorized by FDOT through its LAP certification process in early 2003. Preliminary design and research for the displays was completed in 2002 along with a traveling exhibit on the heritage of the Lake Okeechobee region with funding from the Florida Humanities Council. From April to November 2003, this exhibit will visit seven Palm Beach County libraries before ending up at the South Bay branch before residing at the renovated Cottage. A photo and summary of the exhibit's contents, presented in the County Library web page, are included with the site plan in Exhibit 2d.

(h) Other specific project information that should be considered.

The City of South Bay is part of the Glades area of Palm Beach County, which is targeted by the County comprehensive plan as a priority for economic development, and is also part of Florida's Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative, a top priority of the Governor's Office. South Bay has procured more than 60% of the costs of this project for design, site preparation, infrastructure, and construction.

3. Project Implementation Information:

(a) Describe the proposed method of performing (i.e. contract or in-house) and administering (i.e. local or state) each work phase of the project. If it is proposed that the project be administered by a governmental entity other than the Department of Transportation, the agency must be certified to administer Federal Aid projects in accordance with the department's Local Agency Program Manual (topic no. 525-010-300).

The proposed construction will be performed through contractual services procured in accordance with federal requirements and administered by the City of South Bay, which was LAP-certified by FDOT in 2003. Construction engineering and inspection activities will be performed by the City's Engineering consultant, Michael B. Schorah and Associates.

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(b) Describe any public (and private, if applicable) support of the proposed project. (Examples include: written endorsement, formal declaration, resolution, financial donations or other appropriate means).

Formal support for the Marina and Depot projects was demonstrated by the following:

MARINĂ

- Resolution 32-2002: federal Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Resolutions 45-2002 and 49-2003: Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)
- FIND awarded Phase 1 (design) grant
- Conceptual approval by Army Corps of landscaping and bicycle/ pedestrian facilities 7/21/2000, Bart Wivell, Chief, Real Estate Div.
- Letter of commitment from South Florida Water Management District donating in-kind staff services to design, engineer, and obtain permits to pursue FIND construction grant
- Letter of support from the Rosenwald Elementary School Advisory Council President
- Palm Beach County 2002 recreation bond issue includes project funding
- DEP signed agreement with South Bay awarding a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in 2003

DEPOT

- Inclusion of Marina and Depot sites in the 1997 LOST Master Plan prepared for FDOT District 4 by Genesis Group
- Cottage interpretive displays top-rated TEA-21 project by County MPO FY 2000; City certified to administer monies in 2003
- Resolution 58-98 and 62-2002: submittal of state historic preservation grants (Phase 1 awarded)
- Resolution 79-2002:submittal of a state recreation development grant
 Palm Beach County awarded two economic development grants and
- issued 30-year lease to South Bay in 2000 to develop part of RV Park
 Letters of support from: 1) Congressmen Alcee Hastings and Mark
- Letters of support from. 1) Congressment Aldee Hastings and Mark Foley, 2) State Reps. Hank Harper and Addie Greene, 3) Secretary of State Katherine Harris, 4) Mary Anne Koos, Project Manager, Genesis Group District 4 Master Plan, 5) County Tourist Development Council Executive Director Charles Lehmann, 6) Palm Beach Community College Provost Helen Franke, 7) Helen Greene, Chair of County's Historic Resources Review Board, 8) Vicki Silver, Palm Beach County's Glades Coordinator, 9) Leslie Divoll, preservation architect
- (c) Describe the proposed ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the project when it is completed.

The project area will remain under lease to South Bay by its owners, however the City plans to contract with a private concessionaire to operate and maintain the facilities and open space. This contract will be submitted to applicable agencies to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements.

(d) Describe source of matching funds and any restrictions on availability.

At the Depot site, State historic preservation monies and a matching contribution by South Bay funded the Cottage renovation and relocation, and County economic development grants funded construction of a retail building, plus pending water, sewer, and decorative lighting. At the Marina, federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars will pay for trail construction, parking, picnic facilities, some landscaping, a boardwalk, and some signs, and County bond issue monies will fund part of the costs of the multipurpose/bicycle/pedestrian building. Exhibit 3e details available and requested funding.

3 of 4

(e) Other specific implementation information that should be considered.

The proposed project has significant impact on regional historic transportation and education because the multi-purpose recreation center features an environmental classroom and Everglades amphitheater and an informational sign system throughout the project area, with exterior displays, such as kiosks, consistent with the themes and appearance of the pending transportation museum displays inside the historic Railroad Workers Cottage. The Railroad Workers Cottage is potentially eligible for the National Register, and renovation is being conducted in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards.

The Marina is located in an existing regional park---the Herbert Hoover Dike, certified in 1993 as the Lake Okeechobee segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail, also known as the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST). The LOST is designated a greenway at state, regional, and county levels. The Depot site, linked to the Scenic Trail by Levee Road, is part of a Palm Beach County regional park, the South Bay RV Park/Campground. A 1990 historic site survey by regional historic preservation administrator John Johnson also recorded the portion of the Dike in Palm Beach County (built in the 1930s) in the Florida Master Site File, making it a historic resource.

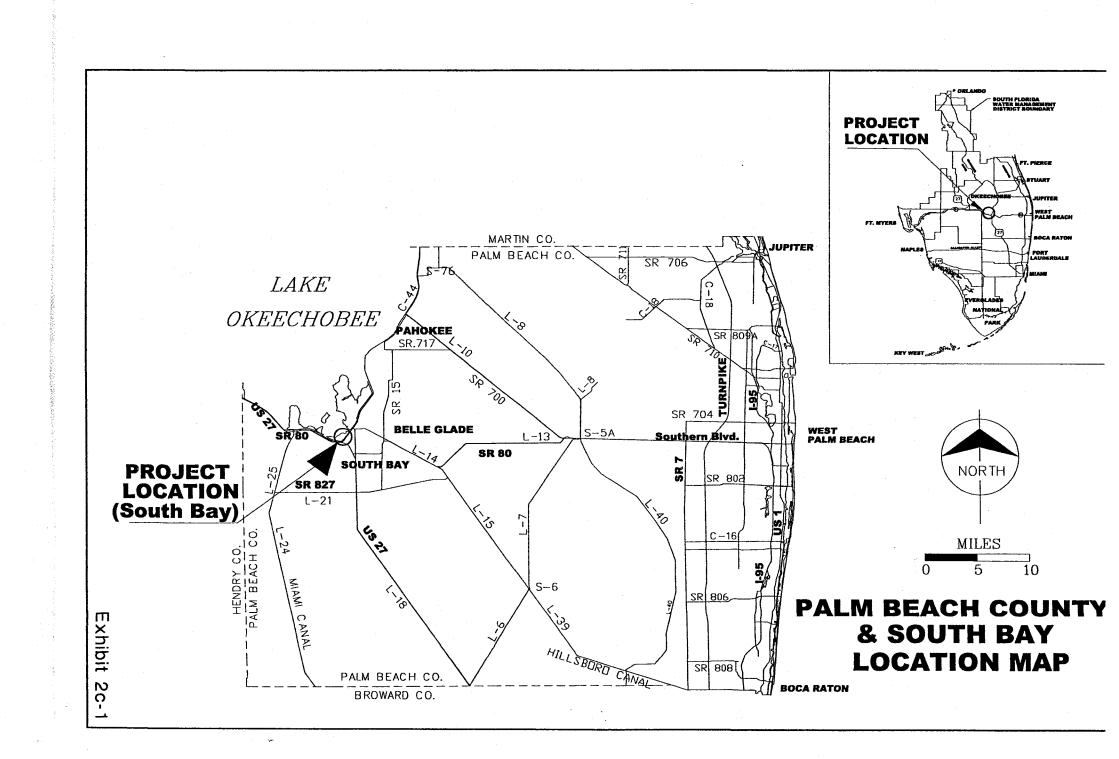
Both portions of the project also directly enhance the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail by supporting a variety of intermodal opportunities: visitors can leave their car behind and bicycle, hike, canoe, kayak, or take a nature boat tour. The Marina's multi-purpose recreation center will provide restrooms, showers, bike lockers, and a bicycle rental/canoe outfitter/tour boat concession along with parking, landscaping, seating, and pedestrian lighting. The project area is also intended as a day destination for motorists traveling between south and central Florida or between Atlantic and Gulf coasts to engage in bicycle or pedestrian activities. Funding has been obtained for paved trails and a boardwalk along the shoreline, providing pedestrian and bicycle access, which is scarce or non-existent at most trailhead parks within the Dike.

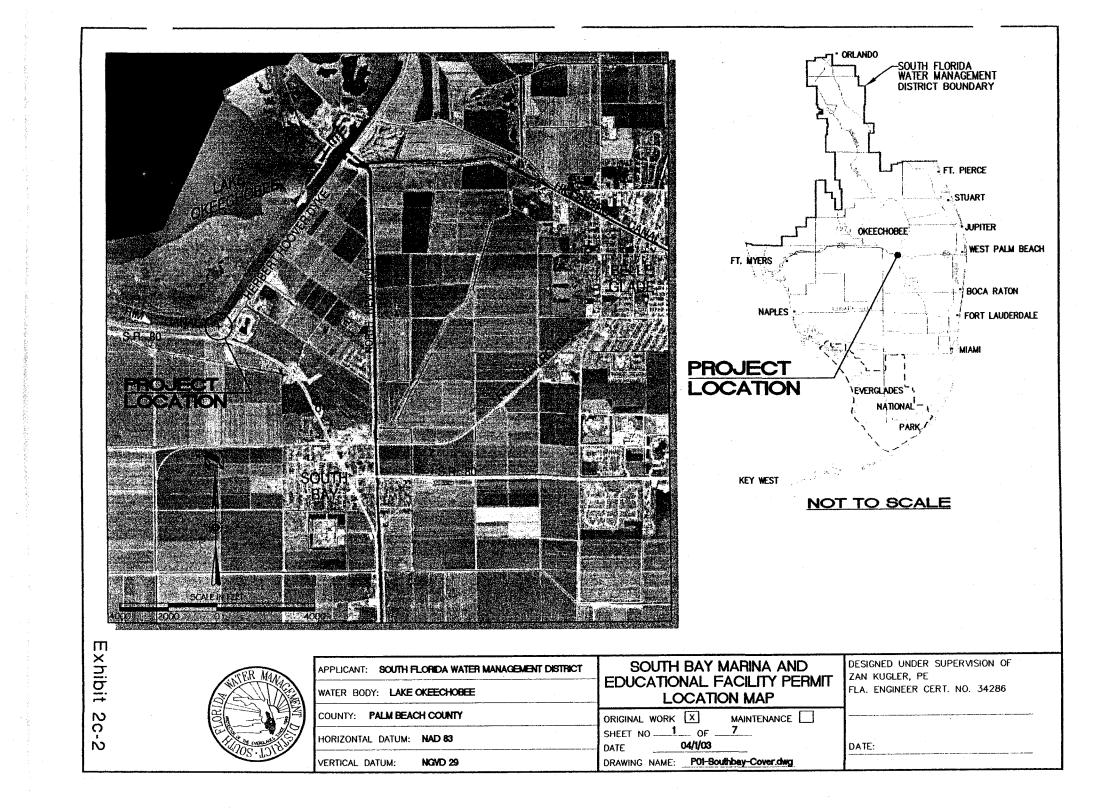
The project is also part of the City of South Bay's urban redevelopment plan, which resulted from a 1999 City-sponsored, County-assisted planning workshop entitled "Accentuate the Positive". This plan envisioned a series of bicycle trails and landscaped gateways along US 27, linking tourist facilities including the proposed project. This City has also been an active participant in developing the Big Water Heritage Trail, a regional driving tour with educational signs. Within the next year, South Bay will become the hub of a regional tourist train which will transport passengers throughout the Lake region using historic FEC locomotives.

As shown in Exhibit 3e, *Detailed Project Budget*, this project offers extensive opportunities to leverage existing or requested funds. Funding awarded for the Marina totals \$400,000, and requested funding totals at least \$800,000, while funding for the Depot totals \$395,800, and requested funding consists of a \$150,000 USDA Rural Development grant for paving and drainage. For the entire project area, these TEA-21 monies will leverage \$795,800 in available construction dollars plus a requested \$950,000, to be confirmed by October 2003. Private foundation dollars will be sought to cover remaining costs.

This TEA-21 request also greatly enhances bicycle/pedestrian access directly to the historic Herbert Hoover Dike and LOST via the multipurpose bicycle/pedestrian recreation center as well as the completed historic transportation museum. The matching contribution includes federal funding of bicycle/pedestrian trails throughout the Marina site.

4 of 4





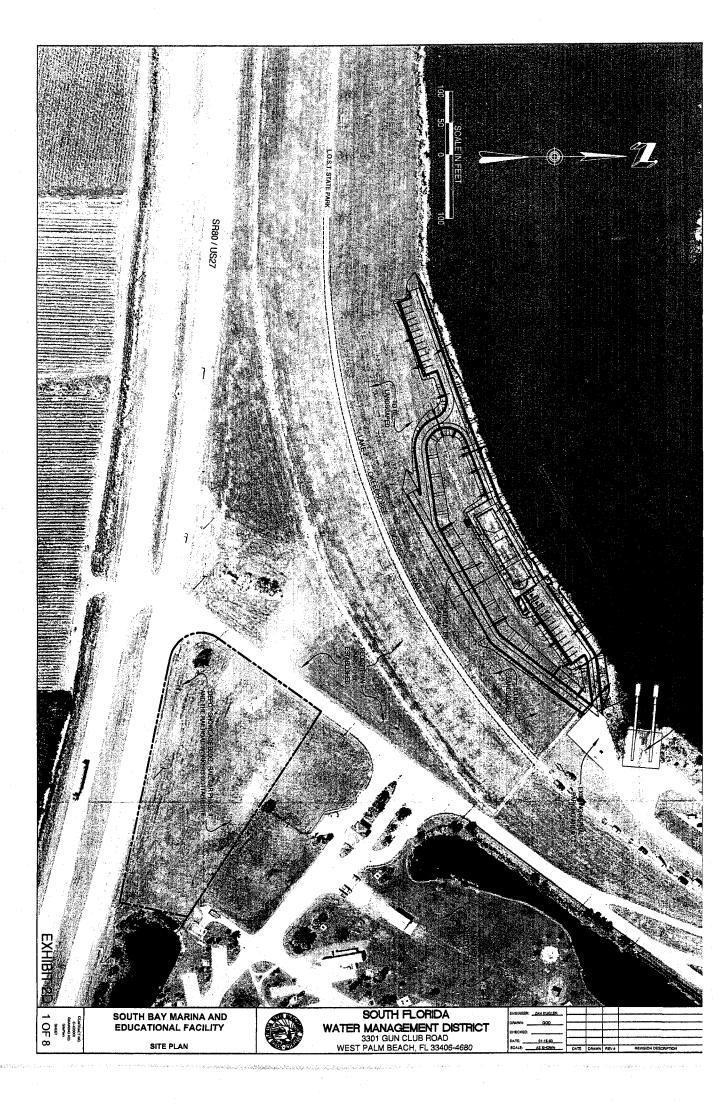
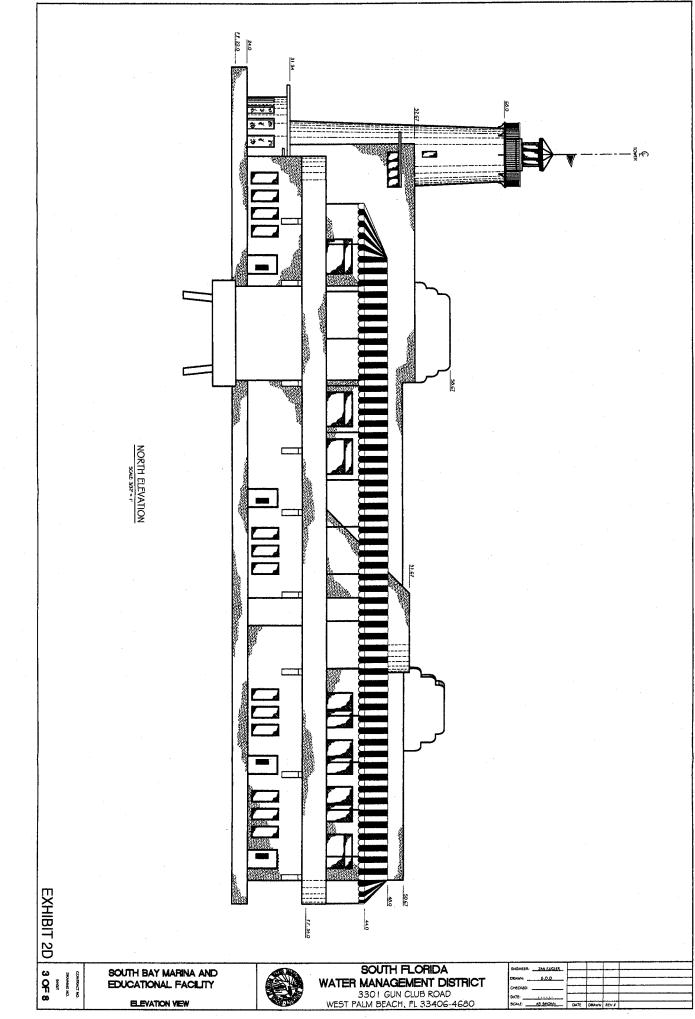
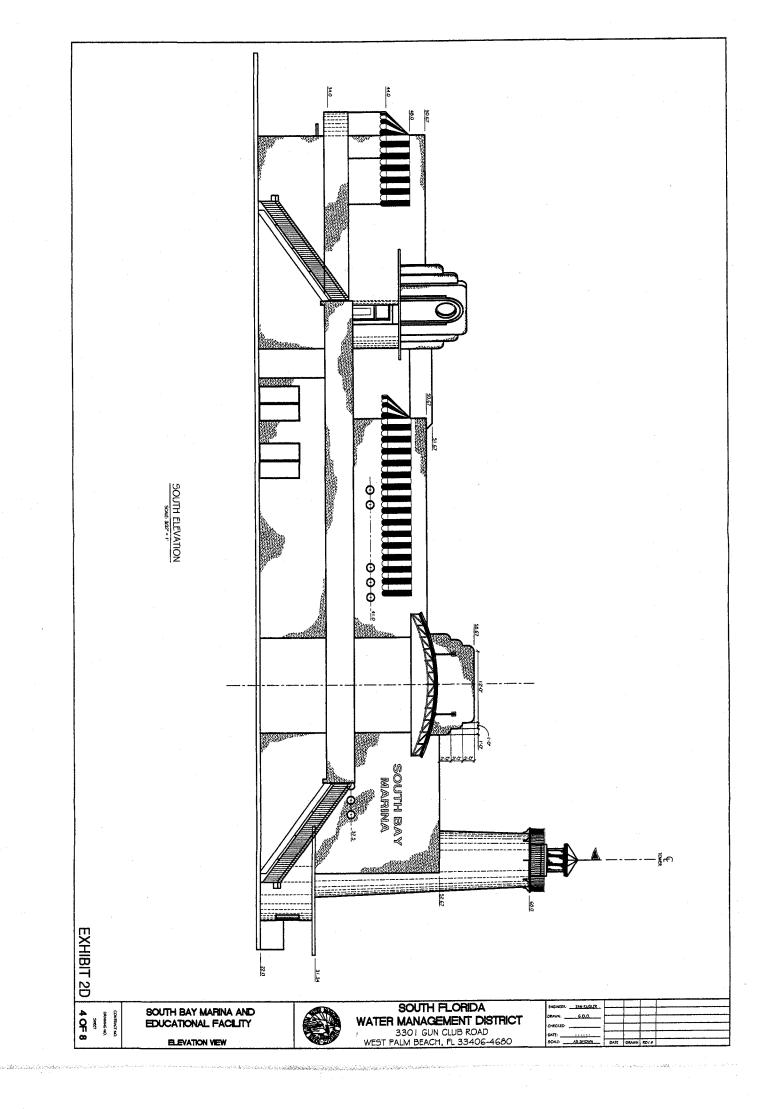


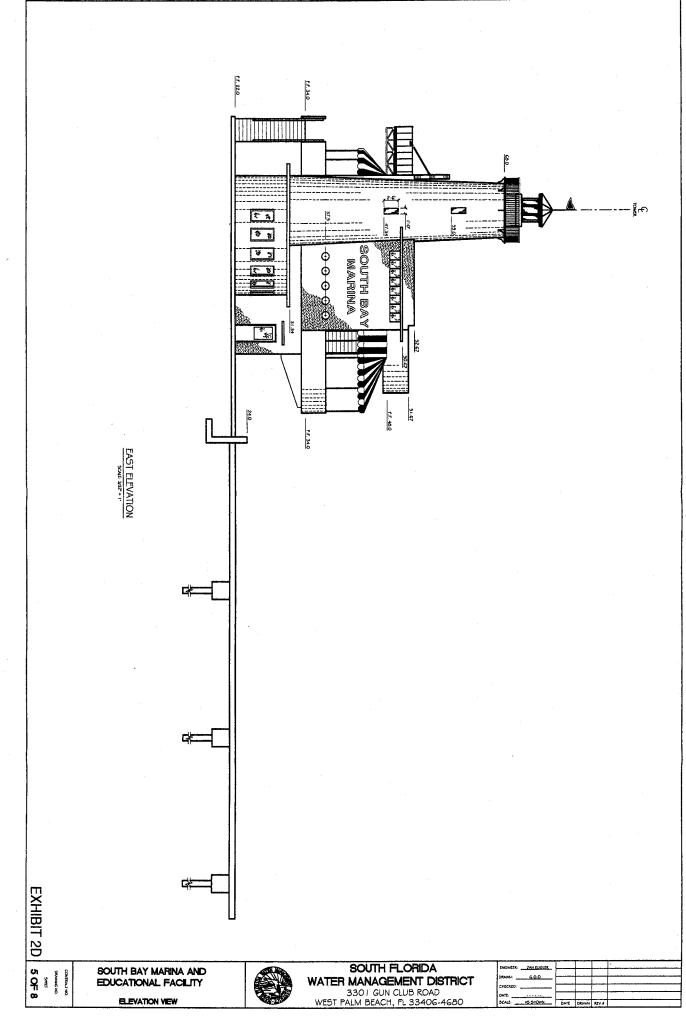


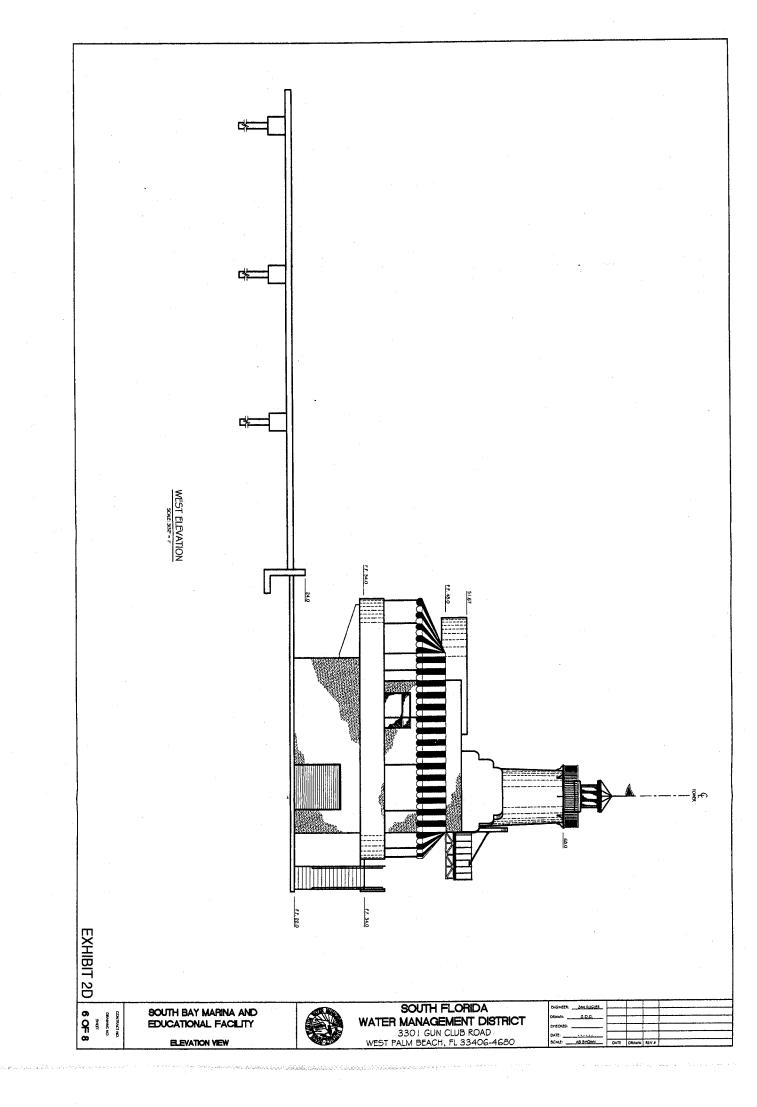
Exhibit 2d Sheet 2 of 8



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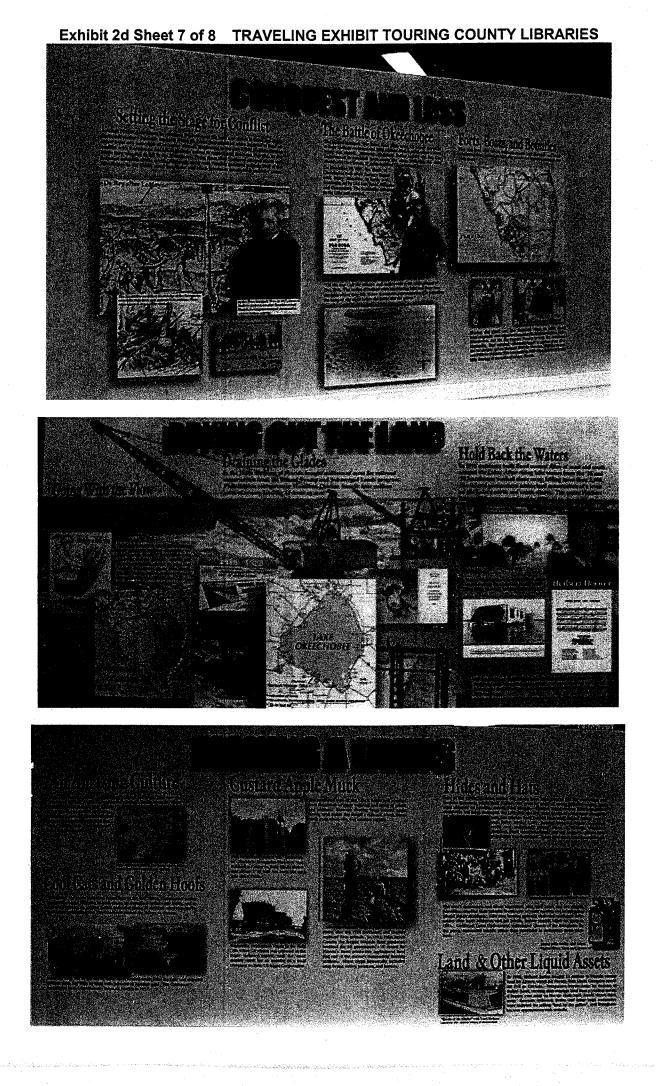
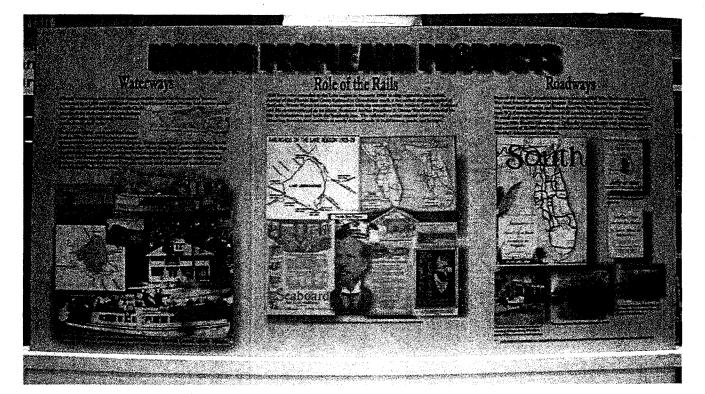


Exhibit 2d Sheet 8 of 8 TRAVELING EXHIBIT TOURING COUNTY LIBRARIES





PART OF EXHIBIT 2d

TRAVELING EXHIBIT TOURING COUNTY LIBRARIES PROVIDED CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, GRAPHICS, AND TOPICS FOR FUTURE TEA-21 FUNDED DISPLAYS

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November 17, 2008

Ms. Barbara J. Handrahan Local Agency Program Administrator Fourth District Office 3400 West Commercial Boulevard Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

RE: South Bay Transportation Enhancement Grant FM#416139-1-58-01

Dear Ms. Handrahan:

On July 25, 2000, Palm Beach County granted the City of South Bay a 30-year lease of a 1.69-acre site located off State Road 80 in western Palm Beach County. The property was leased to the City of South Bay for the development of the City's proposed Crossroads Depot and Marketplace. The City was unable to complete development of this project, and the Lease Agreement is in the process of being terminated by mutual consent.

The City of South Bay previously applied for and was awarded a \$500,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant for this project. The City and Palm Beach County are now requesting that the grant be reassigned to the County's Parks and Recreation Department to complete the project.

It is the County's intent to complete the construction plans and specifications inhouse, and to construct the non grant related elements of the project. A competitive bidding process will be used to hire a general contractor to complete the grant funded improvements.

The proposed grant related improvements include renovation of the historic railroad cottage, construction of sidewalks and pathways to interconnect the Crossroads Depot, the South Bay RV Campground and the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST), along with associated pedestrian lighting, landscaping, benches and bike racks.

Please contact either myself or Jean Matthews, Senior Planner 561-966-6652 if you have any questions or if you need any additional information regarding this grant.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Eshleman, Director Parks and Recreation Department

DLE:JM