

**PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	November 18, 2014	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Consent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Regular</b>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Ordinance</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public Hearing</b>

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**Department:** Department of Economic Sustainability

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**I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF**


**Motion and Title:** Staff recommends motion to: **(A) Receive and File** County Administration's submittal letter of an application to the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a FY 2014 Regional Innovation Grants Program, Science and Research Park Development Grant; **(B) Authorize** the County Administrator or his designee, to execute the FY 2014 contract with the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration as well as future contracts and amendments/modifications on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, after approval of legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office; and **(C) Authorize** the County Administrator, or his designee, to execute subcontracts and amendments utilizing funding from the above-referenced grant.

**Summary:** Palm Beach County in partnership with the Research Park at Florida Atlantic University (RP at FAU) has submitted a grant application to EDA for a Science and Research Park Development Grant for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study on the development of a science and research park in northern Palm Beach County. The development of a second park in northern Palm Beach County to foster the growth of life sciences and related industries would enhance and complement the existing infrastructure FARDA operates in Boca Raton, and would build upon the biotech cluster anchored in North County by the Scripps and Max Planck institutes. The park would have ties with Florida Atlantic University and its medical school, and would participate in the existing collaboration of RP at FAU with Palm Beach State College and the School District in life science and biotechnology programs including the K-20 STEM education program, to ensure development of a trained workforce. A feasibility study will provide data demonstrating the demand, resources, marketing and a timeline that will help to shape the project planning process for a research park in northern Palm Beach County. Although there was no match required in the Notice of Funding Availability, community public and private organizations have pledged \$400,000 of in-kind support to leverage the \$290,000 grant application. (DES Administration) District 1 (DW)


**Background and Justification:** On September 24, 1985, the Board of County Commissioners approved Ordinance No. 85-32, establishing the Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority (FARDA) for the purposes of developing, operating, managing and financing a research and development park in Boca Raton. The current Research Park's strategic plan specifically identifies the exploration of a possible science and research park in northern Palm Beach County.

**Attachment:** Grant application submittal letter

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<b>Recommended By:</b>		11-3-14	
	Department Deputy Director	Date	

<b>Approved By:</b>		11/17/14	
	Assistant County Administrator	Date	

**II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

**A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

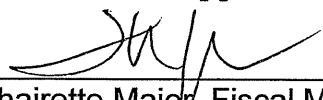
Fiscal Years	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT	*				
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

**B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

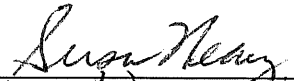
\*No fiscal impact. The application packet to EDA was not included with this agenda item in order not to jeopardize the County's competitiveness in EDA's application process.

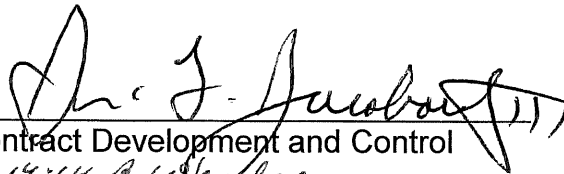
**C. Departmental Fiscal Review:**

  
Shairette Major, Fiscal Manager I

**III. REVIEW COMMENTS**

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

 11/6/14  
OFMB/NO SC JB SA  
11/6 11/6 11/6

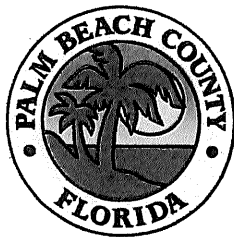
 11/14/14  
Contract Development and Control  
11-14-14 B. Scheller

**B. Legal Sufficiency:**

 11/14/14  
Senior Assistant County Attorney

**C. Other Department Review:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director



**County Administration**

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www.pbcgov.com



**Palm Beach County  
Board of County  
Commissioners**

Priscilla A. Taylor, Mayor  
Paulette Burdick, Vice Mayor  
Hal R. Valeche  
Shelley Vana  
Steven L. Abrams  
Mary Lou Berger  
Jess R. Santamaria

**County Administrator**

Robert Weisman

*"An Equal Opportunity  
Affirmative Action Employer"*

printed on recycled paper

October 29, 2014

Ms. Julie Kirk, Director  
Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship  
Economic Development Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

RE: FY 2014 Regional Innovation Grants  
SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PARK DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Dear Ms. Kirk:

Palm Beach County, in partnership with the Research Park at Florida Atlantic University (FARDA), is pleased to submit this application for a FY 2014 Science and Research Park Development Grant for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study on the development of a science and research park in northern Palm Beach County.

The County's commitment to develop an international bio-science cluster and to create and sustain an environment which fosters innovation and invention, is well-established through the more than \$292 million invested to construct state of the art research facilities for The Scripps Research Institute and Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, and to assemble additional surrounding properties for future research and development uses. These world-renowned institutes have drawn millions in research grants and are collaborating with every major university in the state.

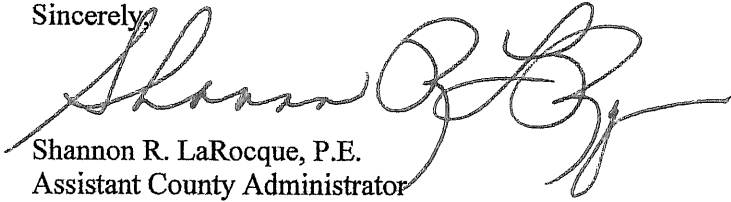
The existing research park at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in the southern end of Palm Beach County has had an economic impact of \$450 million on the regional economy. FARDA is collaborating with state colleges and secondary educational institutions in life science and biotechnology programs to ensure an adequate workforce and also is working with international companies seeking new and expanded markets for start-up companies. Additionally FARDA consistently seeks to integrate relevant companies in the Research Park into the curriculum and research enterprise within the FAU College of Medicine. The Research Park hosts FAU's advanced simulation center and facilitated arrangements whereby South Florida Radiation Oncology, University MRI and Glades Medical all work with students during their medical training in addition to making scientific equipment available for research.

The Palm Beach County Bio-science cluster anchored by Max Planck Florida and Scripps Florida, represents the first consortium of its kind in the United States as this is the first institute in North America for Max Planck Florida which is the largest research institute in the world. Additionally, the County, in its administration of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 108 Loan program, is prepared to offer leveraged financing of more than \$1 million toward the development and expansion of businesses in the cluster.

Letter to Ms. Julie Kirk, Director, Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Economic Development Admin.  
Re: FY 2014 Regional Innovation Grants - SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PARK DEVELOPMENT GRANT  
October 29, 2014  
Page two

Both partners in this application have engaged in developing strategic plans that recognize the importance of supporting economically diverse, high wage employmentbusiness development and growth, particularly in targeted industry clusters such as life sciences, in order to achieve economic sustainability. The award of a grant to undertake a feasibility study for a science and research park in northern Palm Beach County will help keep this industry on a trajectory that will accelerate economic development, facilitate the growth of related industries, and create a community that maximizes the research, development, academic and entrepreneurial talent in South Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon R. LaRocque", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Shannon R. LaRocque, P.E.  
Assistant County Administrator