Agenda Item: 3L2

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	October 22, 2019	(X) Consent () Workshop	()Regular ()Public Hearing
Department:	Environmental Resource		

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

- A) approve a Federally-Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement (Agreement) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4283-26-R (Contract) through the State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) for Wildfire Mitigation (Project) for an amount not to exceed \$562,500, expiring March 31, 2021;
- **B)** approve a Budget Amendment of \$562,500 in the Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Natural Areas Fund (1226) to recognize the grant from FDEM; and
- **C) authorize** the County Administrator, or designee, to sign all future time extensions, task assignments, certifications, and other forms associated with the Agreement, and any necessary minor amendments that do not significantly change the scope of work, terms, or conditions of the Agreement.

Summary: The HMGP application was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on April 4, 2017 (R2017-0463). HMGP administered by FDEM provides funding from FEMA to mitigate risks from natural hazards such as wildfire. The Agreement will reimburse Palm Beach County (County) up to \$562,500 for mechanical chopping/shredding of vegetation to reduce highly flammable fuel loads of saw palmetto and other shrubs that have encroached and increased in size and density on County owned natural areas. The County will utilize specialized equipment to reduce overgrown vegetation to mitigate the risk of wildfire and to allow for lower fire intensity during prescribed burns. Once the fuels are reduced, the threat of a wildfire is significantly reduced. The expected \$750,000 total project cost will be shared by FDEM (75%) and County (25%). The County has a required match of \$187,500, which will be achieved using a combination of in-kind services (\$93,750) and funds from the Natural Areas Fund (\$93,750). The Agreement will become effective upon execution by FDEM, and will expire on March 31, 2021. Districts 1,3,4,6 and 7 (SS)

Background and Justification Continued on Page 3:

Attachments:

1. Federally-Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement (H0258) (HMGP)

2. Budget Amendment (1226)

3. Grant Application R2017-0463

Recommended	by: Debotah Kun	10-8-19		
	Department Director	Date		
Approved by:	Pil	10/16)19		
	Assistant County Administrator	Date		

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

-	xpenditures	2020	202h	2023- 	2023	2024
Operatin	g Costs	\$750,000			P	
Program Income (County			0	0	0	<u> </u>
In-Kind N	latch (County)	<u>(\$93,750)</u>		***************************************		
NET FISC	CAL IMPACT	<u>\$93,750</u>	0	0	0	0
	ONAL FTE NS (Cumulative)			-		
ls Item In	cluded in Curre	nt Budget?		Yes	No X	
Does this	s item include th	ne use of fede	eral fund	s? Yes <u>X</u>	No	
Budget A	Account No.:					
Fund	Departme	nt Uni	it C	bject Pro	gram	
В.		ct #4283-26-R		/Summary of F 7.039 \$562 \$183		:
C.	Department	Fiscal Revie		\$750	0,000	
	N	lung_				
			EW COM			
A.	OFMB Fisca	l and /or Cor	ntract Adı	ministrator Con	nments:	
	Palyor OFMB M	Pauso 930 m	_10/4/19	Contract Ad	ministrator	50/11/19
В.	Legal Suffic	iency:		91	1. 6	
	Assistant Co	ounty Attorne	еу			
C.	Other Depar	tment Reviev	w:			
	Department	Director				

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Background and Justification: Wildfire mitigation is the proactive implementation of measures designed to minimize the destructive effects of wildfires. One of the most effective mitigation activities is mechanical fuel reduction treatments, such as mulching and mowing. ERM conducts wildfire mitigation activities, including both mechanical fuel reduction and prescribed burns throughout the year to help protect communities adjacent to ERM-managed natural areas from wildfires. Mitigation activities are conducted in high-risk wildland-urban interface (WUI) communities, where structures are adjacent to natural vegetation. The wildfire risk of an area is determined by a number of factors, including the amount and types of vegetation present and how it is arranged in the landscape. ERM's 31,387 acres of natural areas are located in highly populated areas of eastern County, where significant WUI threats from pine flatwoods and scrub which consist of large amounts of available volatile vegetative fuels that were historically maintained by fire.

The Project will involve mechanical chopping/shredding of vegetation and reducing highly flammable fuel loads of saw palmetto and other shrubs that have encroached and increased in size and density in the midstory of the natural area habitats. ERM staff will continue to use existing County equipment to keep the vegetation at a low level to maintain the reduced threat of wildfire.

BGEX - 091319*1858 BGRV - 091319*532

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET AMENDMENT Fund 1226 Natural Areas

ACCOUNT NAME AND NUMBER		ORIGINAL BUDGET	CURRENT BUDGET	INCREASE	DECREASE	ADJUSTED I BUDGET	ENCUMBERED / Expended	REMAINING BALANCE
REVENUES					1111			
380-3162 Natural Areas Management TOTAL RECEIPTS & BALANCES	3139 Fed Grnt Other Phys Envir	9,517,326	0 12,288,440	562,500 562,500	0	562,500 12,850,940		
EXPENDITURES 380-3162 Natural Areas Management	3401 - Other Contractual Services	7,457,722	6,123,538	562,500	0	6,686,038	5,408,561	1,277,477
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS & EXPE	ENDITURES	9,517,326	12,288,440	562,500	0	12,850,940		
Environmental Resources Management INITIATING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION Administration/Budget Department Approval OFMB Department - Posted		Signatures & Dates Michael Stell 10/1/19			BY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT MEETING OF October 22, 2019 Deputy Clerk to the			
						Board	of County Commissi	oners