

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: August 25, 2026 Consent [X] Regular []
Public Hearing []

Department: Water Utilities Department

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

- A.) **authorize** the Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department (PBCWUD) to pursue funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Alternative Water Supply (AWS) Fund for an amount estimated up to \$8,000,000 for the expansion of Water Treatment Plant (WTP) No. 11 Upper Floridan Aquifer (UFA) Production Well 14 (Project); and
- B.) **delegate authority** to the County Administrator, or designee, to sign all grant application forms and supporting documents and complete all registration requirements, execute the forthcoming grant agreement and all future time extensions, task assignments, certifications, and other forms associated with the forthcoming grant agreement and any necessary minor amendments that do not substantially change the scope of work, terms, or conditions of the forthcoming grant agreement.

Summary: The AWS Grant Program is available to local governments and nonstate entities to help communities plan for and implement water conservation, reuse and other water supply and water resource development projects. Grant applications are due on September 1, 2026. WTP 11 is the sole source of drinking water for the Glades Region, which serves the Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay. Therefore, it is critical that WTP 11 maintain reliable and efficient treatment processes to ensure the continuous delivery of safe drinking water. The Project consists of the construction of three (3) UFA Production Wells (PW) (14,15,16), associated wellhead, wellsite, and the associated raw watermain branch (RWM) connections required to convey raw water to WTP 11. This Project will be completed in two (2) phases: Phase 1 includes construction of PW 14 and associated RWM, and Phase 2 consists of PWs 15 and 16. Together, the PWs will provide an additional 1,800 gallons per minute of raw water to WTP 11 and increase operational efficiency of the wellfield. Funds are requested for Phase 1 of this project. District 6 (MWJ)

Background and Justification: Since 2020, Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature have approved an investment of \$335 million statewide to develop water resource and water supply projects to help protect water resources and meet the needs of existing and future users. In anticipation of Fiscal Year 2027-2028 legislative appropriations, the FDEP is accepting applications for AWS and water conservation projects for funding consideration. FDEP provides funding consideration for AWS and water conservation projects to support Florida's continuing efforts to implement cost-effective strategies to conserve its precious water resources while meeting the state's water needs. Projects funded through this program are intended to prioritize regional projects in the areas of greatest need as well as projects that provide the greatest benefit. WTP 11 is the sole source of potable water and fire suppression supply for the Glades Region, and this Project will help to ensure the continuous delivery of safe drinking water.

Attachment:

1. Alternative Water Supply Request for Applications

Recommended By: Kristin BA for 7-16-2026
Department Director Date

Approved By: Jae 7/28/26
Chief Deputy County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Capital Expenditures	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Operating Costs	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
External Revenues	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Program Income (County)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
In-Kind Match County	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>\$0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Budget Account No.: Fund Dept. Unit Object

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes ____ No X

Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes ____ No X

Is this item using State Funds? Yes X No ____

Reporting Category N/A

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

No Fiscal Impact

C. Department Fiscal Review: Joony Soreman

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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

ASDUC 7/21/26 OFMB Edw 7.21.26 Thund Thund 7/22/26 Contract Development and Control 267 7.22.26

B. Legal Sufficiency:

(Signature) 7/23/26
Chief Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

ATTACHMENT NO. 1



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTACT: DWRAFundingPortal@FloridaDEP.gov

Legislature Identifies Funding Opportunities for Fiscal Year 2026-27

~ Grant proposals will be accepted July 1 through Sept. 1, 2026 ~

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is excited to announce more than \$230 million in upcoming grant funding opportunities through its online grants portal. DEP has made available grant proposal forms and additional information on ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/GrantsLinks-1.govdelivery.com.

Water Restoration Grant Opportunities:

- **Indian River Lagoon and Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvement Grants** to help communities in these basins implement nutrient reductions through wastewater (including septic-to-sewer conversions), stormwater, agricultural and other water quality improvement projects.
- **Alternative Water Supply Grants** to help communities plan for and implement water conservation, reuse, and other water supply and water resource development projects. Priority funding will be given to regional projects in the areas of greatest need and for projects that provide the greatest benefit.
- **Springs Restoration Grants** to protect and restore the quality and quantity of water that flows from springs. Eligible project types include agricultural best management practices, water conservation, hydrologic restoration, aquifer recharge, land acquisition for preservation, septic-to-sewer conversions, wastewater treatment upgrades and stormwater treatment.
- **Innovative Technology for Harmful Algal Bloom Grants** to evaluate and implement innovative technologies to combat harmful algal blooms and nutrient enrichment in freshwater systems.
- **Nonpoint Source Management Grants** to reduce or eliminate nonpoint source nutrient pollution in verified impaired waterbodies. Funding is available for shovel-ready stormwater treatment projects, nonpoint source pollution best management practices, nonpoint source public education programs and septic-to-sewer conversions on private property.
- **Deepwater Horizon Grants** for water quality, hydrologic restoration and resilience projects for Deepwater Horizon Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies (RESTORE) of the Gulf Coast Act of 2012.

Resilience and Coastal Protection Grant Opportunities:

- **Resilient Florida Implementation Grants** to implement infrastructure projects to address risks identified in a local government vulnerability assessment or the Statewide Vulnerability Assessment.
- **Beach Management Funding Assistance** grants provide funding to local governments for planning and implementation of beach and inlet management projects to protect upland

structures, provide critical habitat and recreational opportunities, and support local economies through tourism.

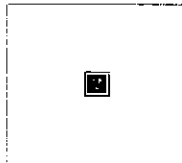
Please visit [FloridaDEP.gov/Funding](https://www.floridadep.gov/Funding) [\[links-1.govdelivery.com\]](#) to see all of DEP's funding opportunities.

Please note, any information submitted to DEP will become a public record, subject to disclosure in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and Article 1, § 24 of the Florida Constitution. Submittal of a project proposal does not create an agreement, nor does it guarantee funding. All awards are contingent upon legislative appropriations.

About the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the state's principal environmental agency, created to protect, conserve and manage Florida's environment and natural resources. The department enforces federal and state environmental laws, protects Florida's air and water quality, cleans up pollution, regulates solid waste management, promotes pollution prevention and acquires environmentally sensitive lands for preservation. The agency also maintains a statewide system of parks, trails and aquatic preserves. Visit the department's website at [FloridaDEP.gov](https://www.floridadep.gov) [\[links-1.govdelivery.com\]](#).

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/41e99e6> [\[content.govdelivery.com\]](#)



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