

Agenda Item: 2.b

Meeting Date: April 14, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: City Commission

Date: 2020-03-19

From: Jorge Quintas, Public Works & Utilities Director/Engineer

Subject: Interlocal Agreement between Pinellas County and the Cities of Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Largo, and Seminole for funding match of a Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) Grant to conduct a Nutrient Source Tracking Study

Presenter(s): Whitney Marsh, Environmental Manager

Recommend: Approve the Interlocal Agreement between Pinellas County and the Cities of Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Largo, and Seminole for a funding match of a SWFWMD - CFI Grant to conduct a Nutrient Source Tracking Study.

Epic Goal(s): Goal #3 - Promote Dunedin as the Premier Coastal Community, protecting and improving our natural resources for the enjoyment of all;
Goal #4 - Be the statewide model for environmental sustainability stewardship.

Boards & Committees: Stormwater Advisory Committee

Budget Impact: Funds for the City's portion of this interlocal agreement (\$8,237 cost share) are available in the Stormwater Utility Fund, under Account #443-5300-538-3110.

Past Action: None

Next Action: None

Attachments: [A. Agreement - City of Dunedin.pdf](#), [B. Agreement - SWFWMD.pdf](#),

Background:

Pinellas County and partner municipalities are required to take action to reduce nutrient loadings in impaired watersheds. This agreement will provide matching funds from five (5) municipalities for a nutrient source tracking study in three (3) impaired watersheds: McKay, Allen's, and Curlew Creeks. The partner municipalities are Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Largo, and Seminole. This study, which will be conducted by a consultant and overseen by the County, will cost \$230,000 total. The SWFWMD will reimburse \$100,000, with the partner municipalities contributing lump sum amounts totaling \$57,890, based upon jurisdictional area in the watersheds. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is also contributing an additional \$30,000 through a separate agreement to cover lab analyses. Pinellas County's portion will be \$42,110.

This interlocal agreement is the result of a CFI matching grant award from the SWFWMD. This project will identify sources of elevated nutrient levels observed in McKay, Allen's, and Curlew Creeks using isotope analysis. Each of these watersheds is impaired for nutrients, with McKay and Curlew Creeks having nutrient (Total Maximum Daily Loads) TMDL's in place. Study results will allow identification of high nutrient loading sources and areas. This project will include a review of existing watershed data, development of a sampling regime for each watershed, sampling at multiple sites in each watershed for at least one year, use of appropriate tracer tools such as isotopes, as well as a report of findings with recommendations to reduce nutrient sources in each watershed.

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved this agreement.

The City of Dunedin's cost share is \$8,237. Funds for this cost share are available in the Stormwater Utility Fund, under Account #443-5300-538-3110.

Staff hereby recommends and requests approval to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County, as described herein.