

## **M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Stephen M. Collins, Real Estate & Land Management

**DATE:** April 14, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Land Acquisition Within the Fakahatchee Strand Component of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project

### **Agenda Item Background:**

The District is acquiring lands needed to complete the Fakahatchee Strand component of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project. Tract SG100-054, owned by Mark LeBlanc, contains approximately 1.25 acres. The purchase price of the Tract is \$42,500, which is equal to the appraised value.

### **Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:**

The District, as local sponsor for the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps"), has agreed to acquire the lands needed to complete the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve Component of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project ("Project"), pursuant to the Project Partnership Agreement by and between the District and Corps, dated August 13, 2009 ("PPA"), as amended by the 2015 Limited Reevaluation Report ("LLR"). A map of the Project boundary and Tract to be acquired is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". Subject to Governing Board approval, the District has agreed to purchase this parcel totaling approximately 1.25 acres for a total purchase price of \$42,500.

### **Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:**

The Picayune Strand Restoration Project will restore freshwater wetlands, improve estuarine water quality by increasing groundwater recharge, reduce large and unnatural freshwater inflows, and restore and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species. The Project is a Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project ("CERP") and is included in the District's Five-Year Plan of Acquisition.

### **Funding Source:**

All costs associated with the acquisition of the Tract herein described will be funded from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund and/or Ad Valorem funds.

### **Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Stephen M. Collins, smcollins@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2959

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

[Resolution No. 2022-0401](#)

[Resolution No. 2022-0402](#)

Exhibit A