

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Rich Virgil, P.E., Field Operations Division

DATE: August 13, 2026

SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreement with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission to Provide Funding for Law Enforcement Services on District Lands

Agenda Item Background:

In 2023, the District entered into a 25-year Cooperative Agreement with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to patrol and provide law enforcement services on District lands. Similar agreements have been in place since Fiscal Year 1999. These patrols enforce the District 40E-7 Public Use Rule and State and Federal rules and regulations pertaining to resource protection, access, and public use on District lands. These patrols have been effective in addressing and preventing illegal activities such as target shooting, dumping, unauthorized vehicle use, illegal take of wildlife, and vandalism on District properties. The services provided under this agreement, as well as past agreements, include providing law enforcement patrols and special details on District property that otherwise could not be provided by FWC due to staffing limitations and competing priorities for environmental law enforcement support. This amendment provides funding for equipment and labor costs necessary to provide the requested law enforcement services on behalf of the District for a period of three years (Fiscal Years 2027-2029) under the 25-year Cooperative Agreement in the amount of \$1,931,013 for a total revised contract amount of \$3,647,896.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

This Governing Board item supports the District's core mission and strategic goals by providing law enforcement support to ensure District lands and recreational activities are properly managed for the benefit of the resource and the public in accordance with Section 373.1391, F.S. The General Services Section in the Administrative Services Division will be responsible for implementing this contract.

Funding Source:

Funding is from Ad Valorem funds, Lease Revenue, Wetland Mitigation, and Land Acquisition Trust Fund subject to Governing Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Adopted Budget and future years' budgets.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2026-0801](#)