AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.a

STAFF AGENDA REVIEW WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: March 24, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Kimberly Dillon

ITEM TYPE: Resolution

TEMP. RESOLUTION NUMBER: TR #14160

AGENDA SECTION: **Consent Agenda:**

TITLE: TR14160 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Tamarac, Florida, Ratifying the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate Appropriations Applications, attached hereto as "Composite Exhibit A," Requesting Funding in the Amount of $543,155, with a 1:1 Local Match, to Support Tamarac Park Safety and Health Enhancements Project; Authorizing the Appropriate City Officials to Accept the Appropriations Funding, in the Form of a $271,577 Grant; Approving the City's Matching Contribution of $271,577; Authorizing the City Manager and/or Appropriate City Official to Execute the Grant Agreement and any Other Necessary Documents, Between the City and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to Receive the Funds, Pending Legal Review; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date.
Presented by Parks & Recreation Director, Rudolph Galindo

RECOMMENDATION: The Grants and Governmental Affairs Manager and the Director of Parks and Recreation recommend that the City Commission: (i) ratify the Appropriations applications, requesting $543,155; (ii) accept the $271,577 grant award; (iii) approve the City's matching contribution of $271,577; and (iv) authorize the City Manager and/or other appropriate City Official to execute the grant agreement and any other necessary documents with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to receive the funds.

BACKGROUND: Tamarac Park is an essential recreational facility for the City, supporting youth and adult sports activities, summer camp programs, Halloween and holiday events, and fitness classes. The Tamarac Park Safety and Health Enhancements Project, also known as the "Tamarac Park

Field, Lighting, Fence, Pathway Project," aims to improve Tamarac Park by implementing safety and health-related upgrades that will enhance accessibility and public use.

To support this Project, the City submitted Appropriations applications to the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, requesting $543,155 in State funding and providing for a 1:1 local match, for park enhancements and upgrades estimated at approximately $1 million. See copy of the Appropriations applications attached to the temporary resolution, as Composite Exhibit A.

In early August 2024, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) notified the City that it was awarded $271,577 in Appropriations funding, with a 1:1 local match of $271,577. The notification advised that FDEP would administer this fund as a cost reimbursement grant, and it included instructions for the necessary steps to prepare the grant agreement between the City and FDEP. However, in order for FDEP to prepare the grant agreement, the City was required to submit several documents, including a site plan, a Budget Cost Analysis Worksheet and a resolution (hereinafter collectively referred to as "pre-agreement documents"), by August 21, 2024.

To comply with FDEP's request, the City would typically use the project information, including project scope of work, to prepare the pre-agreement documents. However, due to a public survey that was conducted by the City in Fall 2024, concerning amenities at Tamarac Park, the City requested additional time to respond to FDEP's request, and was granted an extension through early January 2025.

During a recent update discussion with FDEP, the agency agreed to further extend the deadline for the City to submit the pre-agreement documents to FDEP, to no later than April 11, 2025. This new deadline, which is after the City's March 26th Commission meeting (when the Tamarac Park amenities survey is on the meeting Agenda), is intended to give City staff time to obtain approval for any changes to the Park's amenities and to prepare the pre-agreement documents that align with the project's approved scope and the funding requirements.

If the City accepts this $271,577 grant award of State funds, the City is required to provide the project amenities/elements listed in the Appropriations applications, on which the award is based. Accordingly, as reflected in the Appropriations applications, the following amenities must be included at Tamarac Park, satisfying the project's

approved scope:

- Lighting Upgrades: Replacement and installation of additional lighting fixtures to improve safety and playability of athletic fields.
- Security Enhancements: Installation of Code Blue Emergency Phones and new extended fencing to enhance security.
- Fitness Improvements: Development of a fitness/walking path.

It is crucial to note that the amenities and proposed project scope of work outlined in the awarded Appropriations applications were based on the existing project description, prior to the public survey. According to FDEP, any deviation from what was originally stated in the Appropriations applications may necessitate revisiting the House and Senate sponsors to seek approval for modifications. However, hypothetical discussions with FDEP indicate that a track and field amenity may be an acceptable substitution for a “fitness/walking path” and may not require sponsor(s) approval, as it arguably qualifies as a “multi-purpose path”, satisfying the “fitness/walking path” element in the project scope and aligning with the Applications’ stated purpose of health and safety enhancements.

ISSUE:

The City was awarded $271,577 in Appropriations funds, in the form a grant, with a 1:1 local match of $271,577 for the Project, and must execute a grant agreement with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to receive the State funds.

ATTACHMENTS:

Agenda Memo.Tamarac Park.docx
temporary Resolution.docx
Composite Exhibit A.Appropriations Applications.pdf