

Brevard County
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan
Citizen Oversight Committee

September 19, 2025 – 8:30 to 11:30 am
Brevard County Government Center
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building C, 3rd Floor, Florida Room
Viera, Florida 32940

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Progress and Fiscal Reports
 - a. Monthly Progress Report – Virginia Barker, Director
 - b. Monthly Revenue Graph & Financial Statements – Lori Pierce, Fiscal Analyst
- VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations
 - a. Video – Grand Canal Geotube Muck Dewatering
 - b. Why is Muck Included in the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan? - Virginia
 - c. Muck 101 – Ben Crews, Ph. D Graduate Student, Florida Institute of Technology
 - d. Phosphorus and Ammonium, Benthic Nutrient Fluxes in the Indian River Lagoon – Dr. Austin Fox, Assistant Professor of Ocean Sciences, Florida Institute of Technology
 - e. Muck, Sand, and Hypoxia: The Indian River Lagoon Struggle for Balance – Dr. Austin Fox, Assistant Professor of Ocean Sciences, and Rebecca English, Ph. D Graduate Student, Florida Institute of Technology
 - f. Cleaner Sediments, Cleaner Waters: The Benefits of Muck Removal – Abbey Gering
 - g. Video – Groundwater Monitoring
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
 - a. West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water Reclamation Facility Upgrade Contingency Request
- IX. General Public Comments
- X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members
- XI. Adjournment

**Save Our Indian River Lagoon
Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes**

August 15, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. C,
3rd Floor, Florida Room
Viera, FL 32940

Members Present:

Expertise	Member	Present	Alternate	Present
Science	Don Deis – Chair	Yes	Mark Schrope	No
Technology	Richard Nipper	Yes	Bruce Larson	Yes
Educ/Advocacy	Kimberly Newton	Yes	Deborah Harmon	Yes
Finance	Curt Smith	Yes	Fred Goldstein	Yes
Tourism	Laurilee Thompson	Yes	Nicholas Sanzone	Yes
Real Estate	Barbara Wall-Scanlon	Yes	Eric Mannes	Yes
Lagoon Commerce	Richard Bankhead – Vice Chair	No	Aaron Adams	No
Emeritus – BC	John Windsor	Yes		
Emeritus – LOC	Charles Venuto	Yes		

Staff Present:

Virginia Barker, Director
Heather Balser, Assistant County Attorney
Jeanne Allen, Engineer III
Cole Stubbe, Engineer I
Terri Breeden, Environmental Program Manager
Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
Anthony Gubler, Environmental Specialist III
Abbey Gering, Environmental Specialist I
Alex Ren, Associate Environmental Specialist
Joel Beaudry, Associate Environmental Specialist
Joshua Hibbard, Contract Administrator
Lori Pierce, Fiscal Analyst
Jaculin Watkins, Executive Secretary

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Rick Nipper moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Kimberly Newton.

There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Rick Nipper moved to approve the Minutes; seconded by Barbara Wall-Scanlon.

There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

V. Progress and Fiscal Reports

a. Monthly Progress Report – Virginia Barker, Director

Virginia Barker presented a review of the Monthly Progress Report for August. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

b. Monthly Revenue Graph & Financial Statements – Lori Pierce, Fiscal Analyst

The Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statements were reviewed by Lori Pierce.

c. Quarterly Financial & Grant Statements – Lori Pierce, Fiscal Analyst

The Quarterly Financial & Grant Statements were reviewed by Lori Pierce. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

d. Quarterly Project Update – Terri Breeden, Program Manager

Terri Breeden presented the quarterly project update. Discussion ensued. Ms. Breeden responded to the Committee's questions.

e. Quarterly Outreach Update – Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III

Brandon Smith presented the Quarterly Outreach Update. Discussion ensued. Mr. Brandon Smith responded to the Committee's questions.

VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations

a. Implementing Florida's New Stormwater Standards – Borja Crane-Amores, Program Management Director, Division of Water Resource Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Borja Crane-Amores gave a PowerPoint presentation on implanting Florida's new stormwater standards. Discussion ensued. Mr. Crane-Amores and staff responded to the Committee's questions.

**b. Restoring the Historic Hydrologic Divide – Mark Van Heden, P.E.,
Supervising Professional Engineer, St. Johns River Water Management
District**

Mark Van Heden gave a PowerPoint presentation on the newly-completed M-1 Crane Creek flow restoration project. Discussion ensued. Mr. Van Heden and staff responded to the Committee's questions.

**c. Small Box, Big Impact: Baffle Boxes in Action – Dani Straub, Assistant City
Engineer, City of Melbourne**

Dani Straub gave a PowerPoint presentation on baffle boxes in the City of Melbourne. Discussion ensued. Ms. Straub and Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

**d. Denitrification Success in Stormwater Projects – Jennifer Thompson,
Environmental Specialist III, Brevard County Natural Resources
Management Department**

Jennifer Thompson gave a PowerPoint presentation on denitrification in Brevard County stormwater projects. Discussion ensued. Ms. Thompson responded to the Committee's questions.

VII. Old Business

No old business was heard.

VIII. New Business

No new business was heard.

IX. General Public Comments

Public comments were heard.

X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members

Final Comments were heard.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan September 2025 Progress Report

112 Community Projects Completed to Date; 2209 Homeowner Projects Completed to Date

WORK COMPLETED THIS MONTH:

- South Central C Septic-to-Sewer – All 152 properties connected to sewer
- Quick Connects – 6 more reimbursements processed of 511 to date; 551 agreements executed
- Septic Upgrades – 31 more reimbursements processed of 547 to date; 869 total agreements executed
- Leaky Lateral Repairs – 2 more code cases resolved, now 752 out of 786, plus 23 voluntary repairs
- Contracts executed – 25-88 Espanola Baffle Box, 25-265 Titusville Clam Project, 25-267 Grant Clam Project, 3 Change Orders, and 1 Amendment,
- Derelict Vessels Removed – 2
- Submitted report of habitat restoration projects completed for the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program
- Videos – Groundwater Monitoring

WORK UNDERWAY THIS MONTH:

- Sykes Creek T Septic to Sewer project - Pump Station foundation poured; line installation underway
- South Beaches A Septic to Sewer – 2 of 37 connections completed; 23 of 37 agreements executed
- Micco Septic-to-Sewer – 1 of 29 parcels connected; final as-builts under review for project closeout
- South Beaches O & P Septic-to-Sewer – Low bid accepted; construction contracting underway
- Brevard County Septic-to-Sewer – South Banana B & Merritt Island C & F in bid que; 100% design underway for South Central A, Cocoa C, North Merritt Island E, & Sharpes B; 75% design underway for Sykes Creek R, Sharpes A & South Central D; 30% design underway for Micco B & Merritt Island G
- Crane Creek/M-1 Canal – Connected to power; field testing is ongoing
- Brevard County Stormwater Basin 71 Flounder Creek – Received grant reimbursement
- Basin 1066 Angel Ave – seeking eligibility for onsite wetland mitigation credits
- Grand Canal Muck Dredging – About 514,549 cubic yards dredged by 9/2; dredging to finish by 11/30
- Eau Gallie Muck Dredging – St Johns Governing Board approved disposal site on 8/12; awaiting Consent Agreement to use FPL access road to the disposal site before awarding dredging contract
- Sykes Creek Muck Dredging – Per Board direction, staff is seeking muck disposal/beneficial reuse options such as converting obsolete borrow pits to wetlands and issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify and solicit interest from landowners willing to provide sites for muck placement
- Canaveral South and Titusville Muck Projects – contracting with engineering firms to further evaluate and refine the best options identified in the initial Alternative Assessments
- Titusville Causeway Resiliency Project – Installation of reef arches at the west end of the shoreline
- Contracting Underway – IRL2025-01 Grant Agreement 50 Quick Connects, FDEP Grant INV64, Florida Tech Master Agreement 2

Complete	112	Save Our Indian River Lagoon Plan Project Progress	
In Progress	100		
Complete + In Progress	212		
Total Projects in the Plan			412

PRESENTATIONS:

August 21 – Pond Pilot Program – Suntree Master HOA Sub-Association Meeting – Melanie
 August 26 – Pond Pilot Program – Suntree Library Monthly Lecture Series – Melanie
 August 28 – Florida Lake Management Society’s Adaptive Management Conference – Virginia
 September 4 – Sea Turtle Preservation Society – Brandon
 September 9 – Marine Resources Council – Brandon
 September 23 – Melbourne Regional Chamber of Commerce – Virginia

UPCOMING LAGOON SCIENCE FORUMS AND PUBLIC EVENTS:

October 2 – Indian River Lagoon Coalition [Our Lagoon, Our Legacy](#)
 October 4 – [Space Coast Print Festival](#) – Gytaku Tabling
 October 7 – Ocean Research and Conservation Association [Introduction to Citizen Science Projects](#)
 October 9 – Ocean Research and Conservation Association [A Day in the Life of the Indian River Lagoon](#)
 October 29-30 – Marine Resources Council [Low Impact Development Conference](#)

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES:

September 20 – Keep Brevard Beautiful [International Coastal Cleanup](#)
 September 20 – Marine Resource Council [International Coastal Cleanup](#)
 September 20 – Waterway Warriors [International Coastal Cleanup](#)
 September 23 – Ocean Research and Conservation Association [Fish Extractions and Processing](#)
 September 24 – Ocean Research and Conservation Association [Nursery Maintenance Day](#)
 September 27 – Marine Resource Council [Mangrove Workshop](#)
 September 27 – Waterway Warriors [Trash Cleanup](#)
 October 3 – Marine Resources Council [First Friday Litter Patrol](#)
 October 10 – Marine Resource Council [Mangrove Workshop](#)

Ongoing volunteer opportunities:

Brevard Zoo Restore Our Shores – [Email Restore Our Shores for more information](#)
 Florida Horseshoe Crab Watch – [Email Holly Abeels for more information](#)
 Ocean Research & Conservation Association pollution mapping equipment cleaning – [Email Lauren](#)
 Ocean Research & Conservation Association *Pyrodinium* collection and analysis – [Email Kathy](#)
 Rotary Park rain garden maintenance or storm drain marking – [Email Carlos Cuevas](#)
 Space Coast Surfrider Foundation Blue Water Task Force Monitoring – [Email Chis Baker for more information](#)

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWSLETTER, AND REPORT LINKS:

Lagoon Loyal Outreach & Engagement Landing Page	Save Our Indian River Lagoon YouTube
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Website	Sign up for our Monthly Newsletter
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Facebook	Sign up for our Weekly Harmful Algal Bloom Reports
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Instagram	Visit Lagoon Loyal for home pollution reduction tips

FUTURE TOPICS FOR SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

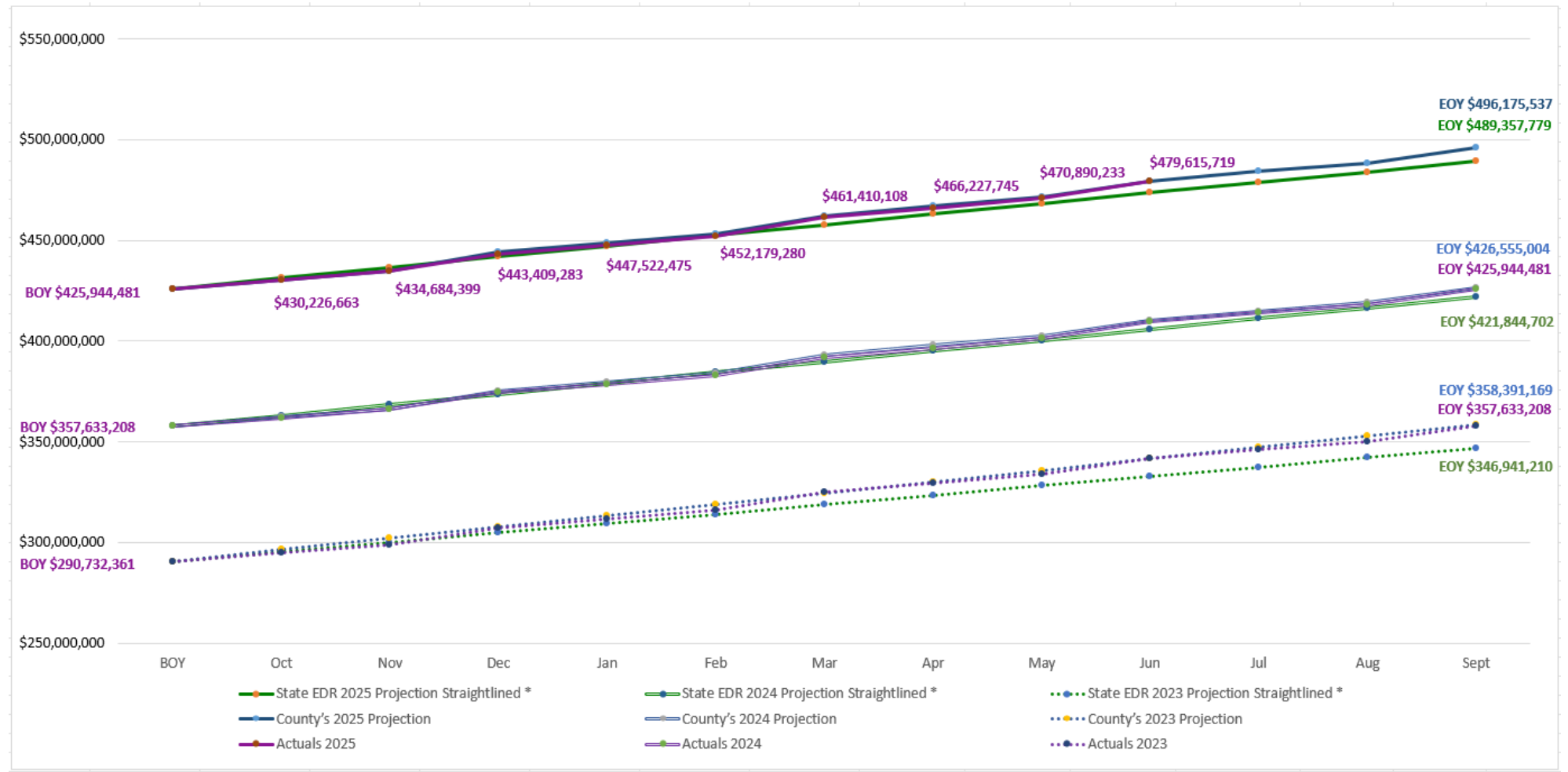
Project Performance Measurements and Cost-Effectiveness Results
 Oyster spat monitoring and gardening results
 Trends in Satellite-based Maps of Harmful Algal Blooms in the Indian River Lagoon
 Isotope Concentration Gradients for Priority Nitrogen Sources
 Inground Nitrogen Reducing Bioreactor Septic Drain Field Pilot Project Findings
 Shoreline Armor and Living Shoreline Permitting Authorities, Rules, and Opportunities

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Graph

Fiscal Years 22-23, 23-24 and 24-25

* Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table

- Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
- EDR (Economic and Demographic Research) Data, BOY (Beginning of Year), EOY (End of Year)
- For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 22-23 to Current Fiscal Year Table
- Updated the State EDR Beginning of Year to match Actuals End of Year to the prior Fiscal Years



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenue Cumulative Chart

Fiscal Years 22-23, 23-24 and 24 -25

Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table

- Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
- EDR (Economic and Demographic Research) Data, BOY (Beginning of Year), EOY (End of Year)
- For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 22-23 to Current Fiscal Year Table

Month	State EDR 2025 Projection Straightlined *	County's 2025 Projection	Actuals 2025	State EDR 2024 Projection Straightlined *	County's 2024 Projection	Actuals 2024	State EDR 2023 Projection Straightlined *	County's 2023 Projection	Actuals 2023
BOY	\$425,944,481	\$425,944,481	\$425,944,481	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361
Oct	431,228,923	430,534,938	\$430,226,663	\$362,984,166	\$362,138,073	\$361,824,622	\$295,416,432	\$296,370,595	\$294,991,249
Nov	436,513,364	434,955,456	\$434,684,399	\$368,335,124	\$366,476,167	\$366,098,349	\$300,100,502	\$302,008,829	\$299,092,473
Dec	441,797,806	444,009,250	\$443,409,283	\$373,686,082	\$375,361,146	\$374,419,168	\$304,784,573	\$307,647,063	\$307,492,311
Jan	447,082,247	448,463,027	\$447,522,475	\$379,037,039	\$379,731,879	\$378,631,822	\$309,468,644	\$313,285,297	\$311,773,147
Feb	452,366,689	453,120,357	\$452,179,280	\$384,387,997	\$384,302,369	\$383,100,779	\$314,152,715	\$318,923,531	\$316,249,631
Mar	457,651,130	462,111,655	\$461,410,108	\$389,738,955	\$393,126,019	\$392,011,297	\$318,836,785	\$324,561,765	\$324,891,795
Apr	462,935,572	466,867,475	\$466,227,745	\$395,089,913	\$397,793,163	\$396,591,796	\$323,520,856	\$330,199,999	\$329,462,945
May	468,220,013	471,473,922	\$470,890,233	\$400,440,871	\$402,313,719	\$401,244,060	\$328,204,927	\$335,838,233	\$333,890,522
Jun	473,504,455	479,487,867	\$479,615,719	\$405,791,829	\$410,178,239	\$409,639,429	\$332,888,998	\$341,476,467	\$341,593,283
Jul	478,788,896	484,175,149		\$411,142,786	\$414,778,122	\$413,904,849	\$337,573,068	\$347,114,701	\$346,098,557
Aug	484,073,338	488,488,152		\$416,493,744	\$419,010,706	\$418,126,812	\$342,257,139	\$352,752,935	\$350,244,084
Sept	489,357,779	496,175,537		\$421,844,702	\$426,555,004	\$425,944,481	\$346,941,210	\$358,391,169	\$357,633,208

FY 2025 Monthly Financial Statement

Save Our Indian River Lagoon

Date Range 01 October 2024 – 03 September 2025

*Total Assigned YTD-Year to Date, includes all stages of accounting for expenditures, with data derived from Systems, Applications and Products program

Revenues	Budget	Total Assigned YTD*	% Earned
Taxes	\$ 70,231,056	\$ 53,671,238	76.42%
Interest Earned	\$ 5,811,762	\$ 12,853,985	221.17%
Other Federal Grants	\$ 5,295,455	\$ 718,800	13.57%
Other State Grants	\$ 67,450,492	\$ 6,990,612	10.36%
Other Physical Environmental Grants	\$ 6,946,429	\$ -	0.00%
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 2,548,944	\$ -	0.00%
Statutory Reduction	\$ (7,786,754)	\$ -	0.00%
Balance Forward	\$ 366,457,053	\$ 375,133,101	102.37%
Total	\$ 516,954,437	\$ 449,367,735	86.93%

Expenditures (Roll-Up)	Budget	Total Assigned YTD*	Actuals
Compensation & Benefits	\$ 1,484,068	\$ 1,401,207	\$ 1,234,184
Operating Expenses	\$ 517,928	\$ 377,007	\$ 317,874
Capital Outlay	\$ 40,989	\$ 36,570	\$ 36,570
SOIRL Projects funded under Operating Expenses (Non-Capital County Project & Programs)	\$ 2,504,658	\$ 2,331,733	\$ 1,351,246
SOIRL Projects funded under Capital Improvement (County Projects over \$35K)	\$ 187,930,217	\$ 59,224,983	\$ 15,411,133
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Gov't Agencies (Cities & Water Management Districts)	\$ 122,661,253	\$ 36,876,615	\$ 3,342,700
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Private Organizations (Property Owners & Non-Government Organizations)	\$ 38,928,677	\$ 11,429,457	\$ 6,332,636
Contingency	\$ 27,723,539	\$ -	\$ -
Reserves (for approved projects scheduled beyond this fiscal year)	\$ 135,163,108	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 516,954,437	\$ 111,677,571	\$ 28,026,343



Save Our Indian River Lagoon
Citizen Oversight Committee
September 19, 2025

Agenda Item:

VIII. a. New Business

Title:

City of West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water Reclamation Facility Upgrade funding increase request

Requested Action:

Motion to recommend approval of up to \$1,300,000.00 funding increase for the City of West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water Reclamation Facility Upgrade Project

Summary Explanation and Background:

The City of West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water Reclamation Facility Upgrade Project is a substitute project that was added to the Save Our Indian River Lagoon project plan approved in 2020. It was approved and contracted for a cost-share of \$4,260,000.00 to upgrade and improve the facility to reduce the nitrogen and phosphorus concentration of the reclaimed water. The estimated annual total nitrogen reduction is 11,360 pounds and the estimated annual total phosphorus reduction is 3,302 pounds. The total cost for the project was estimated at \$8,000,000.00.

The 2025 SOIRL Plan Update included the cost of inflation for each project. The fifth and final year of inflation approved for this project added \$2,245,916.00 to the cost-share, for a cost-share total of \$6,505,916.00. The City also secured funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for \$1,510,000.00 and the St. Johns River Water Management District for \$1,343,250.00. A total of \$9,359,166.00 has been secured for this project. The City has also requested additional funding to support this project but has not yet received confirmation of award.

The City received three qualified bid requests, all of which exceeded the City's estimates, with the lowest bid over \$8,000,000.00. The City has worked with its engineering firm to reduce anticipated construction costs while accomplishing the same nutrient reduction benefits. The revised project re-bid is \$10,725,750.00. This leaves a remaining balance of \$1,365,584.00.

Section 5.1 of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan allows the Contingency Fund Reserve to be used to increase funding for approved projects. *"For project cost increases that exceed inflation rates and are more than 10% above the amount*



identified in the project's cost-share agreement or the estimated cost or eligible amount of Trust Fund cost-share stated in the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan, as updated, County staff will evaluate the project circumstances and present findings to the Citizen Oversight Committee for review. The Citizen Oversight Committee will recommend rejection, modification, or approval of the funding request and provide such recommendation to the County representative authorized to sign the amendment. Staff will provide the Citizen Oversight Committee's recommendation to the County representative authorized to sign the request based on the authority granted by the County Commission."

Staff seeks a recommendation from the Citizen Oversight Committee on expanding the funding for the City of West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water Reclamation Facility Upgrade Project by up to \$1,300,000.00 due to increased costs.

MAYOR
Andrea Young

DEPUTY MAYOR
Pat Bentley

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Diana Adams
Austin Gaylord
Alexis McGuire
Stephen Phrampus
Helen Voltz



Finance Department
Candice E. Blake, Finance Director
City Hall
2240 Minton Road
West Melbourne, FL 32904
Phone: (321) 837-7775
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August 28, 2025

Terri Breeden, Environmental Section Supervisor
Brevard County Natural Resources Management
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. A-219
Viera, Florida 32940

RE: Request for Additional Funds for 39036 West Melbourne Ray Bullard Water
Reclamation Facility BNR Project (Interlocal Agreement SOIRL 21-138)

Dear Ms. Breeden:

The City of West Melbourne is requesting additional funds from the SOIRL Program to help accomplish the project goal of reducing both nitrogen and phosphorus concentration from the City's water reclamation facility. The project was first bid in September 2024, with all three qualified proposals exceeding the engineer's estimate by a substantial margin the lowest by over \$8 million, reflecting similar trends in other BNR projects across Brevard County.

Following this, the City collaborated with our engineering consultant, Infrastructure Services Solutions (ISS), to revise the project scope and apply value engineering to reduce anticipated construction costs. These revisions maintained the project's nutrient reduction targets while aligning better with available funding. The revised project was re-bid, and the lowest responsible bid received was \$10,725,750.

To date, the City has secured significant grant funding to support the project. This includes \$5,784,232 from the SOIRL Program, \$1,510,000 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and \$1,343,250 from the St. Johns River Water Management District. The City continues to engage with other granting agencies to seek additional support but has not received confirmation of further awards at this time.

Therefore, we are respectfully requesting an additional \$1,300,000 from the SOIRL Program to help accomplish our common goal of reducing nutrient loading into the Indian River Lagoon and protecting its long-term health.

We are grateful for your continued support and appreciate any consideration of this funding request. The City is available to provide any additional information or to discuss the updated project changes if needed.

Sincerely,

Tim Rhode
City Manager