

**MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of County Commissioners **DATE:** February 16, 2026

VIA: Don G. Donaldson, P.E.
County Administrator

FROM: Stephanie Merle
Director of the Office of Management & Budget

REF: 26-0334

**SUBJECT: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE
BOARD APPROVAL**

PERMISSION TO APPLY

1. **Permission to Apply for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Community Challenge Grant**

- **Requestor** – Human Services
- **Granting Agency** – AARP
- **Project Description** – The purpose of the program is to provide access to housing with increased safety accommodations for Martin County residents. Grant funds will be used to purchase and install items such as grab bars, chair lifts, staircase handrails, wheelchair ramps, and more. The program funding runs from June 2026 – December 2026.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$15,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – None
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – There will be no direct programmatic support dedicated solely to this programming in Martin County.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – There will be no direct funding dedicated solely to this programming in Martin County.

Documents Requiring Action:

- None

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Human Services Director or designee to apply for the AARP Community Challenge Grant.

2. **Permission to Apply for the FY26 Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Grant through the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the SW 84th Avenue and SW Busch Street Resurfacing and Reconstruction Project**

- **Requestor** – Public Works Department / Capital Projects Division
- **Granting Agency** – FDOT

- **Project Description** – Resurfacing and reconstruction of SW 84th Avenue and SW Busch Street. This roadway is very heavily travelled with continuous truck traffic accessing the transfer station. The project will include segments of roadway reconstruction and segments of deep milling and resurfacing. A 3-foot-wide unpaved shoulder and a 2-foot-wide paved shoulder will be constructed for the project length. The project will also include ground-in rumble strips, safety edge and other required safety countermeasures.
- **Requested Grant Award** – Total estimated project cost is \$1,783,385. The requested grant award is \$1,337,538 to be programmed in the FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program for FY2028-FY2032.
- **Budgetary Impact** – The SCOP grant requires a fund match. \$445,846 to be funded with FY32 Roads Capital Improvement Funds (CIP).
- **Annual operating costs** –
 - a. Annual maintenance cost is estimated to be \$3,000 per year; and
 - b. Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Identified project to remain unfunded.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Martin County will forfeit \$1,337,538 in grant funds.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Board Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of the Martin County Public Works Department, or designee, to apply for the FDOT – SCOP grant for the SW 84th Avenue and SW Busch Street Resurfacing and Reconstruction Project; and
- Move that the Board authorize the Director of the Martin County Public Works Department, or designee, to sign other non-monetary documents related to this grant application upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney’s Office.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

3. **Permission to Apply for the FY26 Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Grant through the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the SW Sunset Trail Resurfacing and Reconstruction Project**
 - **Requestor** – Public Works Department / Capital Projects Division
 - **Granting Agency** – FDOT
 - **Project Description** – Resurfacing and reconstruction of segments of SW Sunset Trail and widening of the bridge with a culvert. The segment of SW Sunset Trail from High Meadow Avenue to the bridge will be milled and resurfaced with overbuild to address cross slope concerns. The segment between the bridge and SW Mapp Road will be reconstructed. The bridge will be widened with a culvert to allow to vehicles to pass safely. The project will include the addition of 5-foot-wide shoulders striped as bicycle lanes, new sidewalk where sections are missing, and

signage, pavement markings and other required safety improvements.

- **Requested Grant Award** – Total estimated project cost is \$6,619,930. The requested grant award is \$4,964,947 to be programmed in the FDOT Draft Tentative Work Program for FY2028-FY2032.
- **Budgetary Impact** – The SCOP grant requires a fund match. \$1,654,982 to be funded with FY32 Roads Capital Improvement Funds (CIP).
- **Annual operating costs** –
 - a. Annual maintenance cost is estimated to be \$3,000 per year; and
 - b. Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Identified project to remain unfunded.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Martin County will forfeit \$4,964,947 in grant funds.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Board Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of the Martin County Public Works Department, or designee, to apply for the FDOT – SCOP grant for the SW Sunset Trail Resurfacing and Reconstruction Project; and
- Move that the Board authorize the Director of the Martin County Public Works Department, or designee, to sign other non-monetary documents related to this grant application upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney’s Office.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

4. **Permission to Apply for the Fiscal Year 2026 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) State Wildlife Grant (SWG) for the MC-2 Shoreline Stabilization Project**

- **Requestor** – Public Works Department
- **Granting Agency** – FFWCC
- **Project Description** – The purpose of this grant funding will be to design, permit, and engineer a breakwater to stabilize the shoreline, add sediments and plant mangroves that will improve the quality of nesting on Bird Island Critical Wildlife Area (CWA). Bird Island CWA, located near St. Lucie Inlet, Stuart, Florida, is one of the most productive breeding grounds for more than fifteen species of birds, of which ten are listed as Florida’s Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). Like many intracoastal mangrove islands, Bird Island CWA has experienced severe erosion due to increased intensity from boat wakes and storm damage. The continued erosion threatens the sustainability of this island to remain a critical nesting site.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$65,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – Grant match of \$35,000 is currently budgeted in the FY26 MC-2 Shoreline Stabilization Project Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The work described above will not be conducted.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Funds will not be expended.

Documents Requiring Action:

- None

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Public Works Director or designee to apply for the FY26 FFWCC SWG program funding for the MC-2 Shoreline Stabilization Project.

PERMISSION TO ACCEPT

5. **Permission to Accept the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Grant QG030, S-1 Canal Channel Enhancement Project**

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – FDEP
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – Grant funds of \$1,000,000 will support the design and construction of regional water quality treatment improvements along a portion of the S-1 Canal adjacent to agricultural lands in Martin County. The project will utilize a multistage channel design, including in-channel treatment and the creation of approximately one mile of a 60-foot-wide floodplain wetland bench along the west bank of the canal. The floodplain bench will be graded to function as a treatment marsh, reducing total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids loads discharged to the C-44 Canal and the St. Lucie River and Estuary.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – New
- **Duration** – July 1, 2024 – August 31, 2029
- **Benefits to Martin County** – Grant funding will significantly reduce County costs associated with the planning, design, and construction of approximately one mile of a 60-foot-wide floodplain wetland bench within the S-1 Canal, including in-channel treatment improvements to address agricultural runoff.
- **Cost to Martin County** –
 - a. The County has committed \$250,000 in county funds and will be applying for an additional \$1,750,000 through future funding opportunities toward the total \$3,000,000 project cost, with funding programmed in the FY26 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) under the S1 Canal Channel Enhancement Project; and
 - b. Staff time to administer the grant and provide project oversight.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The County would be fully responsible for all preconstruction and construction costs; and, therefore, the project would not proceed forward.

- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – The County would forfeit \$1,000,000 in grant funding towards total project cost, and the County would seek alternative funding.

The Office of Management and Budget is requesting the adoption of the FY26 S-1 Canal Channel Enhancement sheet to recognize the grant revenues.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Grant Agreement
- Budget Resolution
- FY26 S-1 Canal Channel Enhancement CIP sheet

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the FDEP Grant Agreement QG030, S-1 Canal Channel Enhancement Project;
- Move that the Board authorize the County Administrator or designee to execute any future non-monetary grant-related documents upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney's Office;
- Move that the Board adopt the Budget Resolution; and
- Move that the Board adopt the FY26 S-1 Canal Channel Enhancement CIP sheet.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

6. **Permission to Accept the FY26 Department of Children and Families (DCF) Water Safety Campaign Rip Current Simulator for Ocean Rescue**

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – There is no agreement. It is a reimbursement of funds from the State of Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF).
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – The Martin County Board of County Commissioners will be the recipient of a reimbursement of funds from the State of Florida Department of Children and Families.
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – This is a reimbursement of funds for the purchase of a riptide training simulator. The purpose of this program is to support training efforts aimed at preventing drownings caused by rip currents in alignment with the Department's Water Safety Campaign. The overarching goal is to educate emergency responders, lifeguards, and the general public, particularly youth and individuals unfamiliar with beach environments, on rip current awareness and survival techniques.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – There is no agreement required.
- **Duration** – Equipment must be purchased, and training delivered by June 30th, 2026
- **Benefits to Martin County** – These devices will enable the safe and realistic demonstration of rip current conditions, enhancing the effectiveness of training for rescue personnel and community members. They may be utilized in various settings, including school programs, summer camps, lifeguard certification courses, adult swim classes, and water safety training for individuals with autism, as well as other settings in alignment with the purpose of this project.

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- **Cost to Martin County** – Martin County will be reimbursed for the equipment totaling \$12,000, and any training related expenses up to \$1,900 for a grand total of \$13,900. There is no local funding match requirement.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Unable to purchase unbudgeted new training equipment.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Martin County would forgo external funding for important training equipment that is not otherwise budgeted.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Budget Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board adopt the Budget Resolution.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DGD/SM/rp
Attachments