

**MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of County Commissioners **DATE:** January 20, 2026

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

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

REF: 26-0332

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

PERMISSION TO APPLY

1. **Permission for the Authorized Agent to Sign a Maintenance Agreement Required as Part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Through the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) for the Bessey Creek Retrofit Project**

- **Requestor** – Public Works Department
- **Granting Agency** – FDEM
- **Project Description** – Martin County proposes infrastructure retrofit modifications to the existing four (4) roadway drainage crossings identified in a previous study as the highest priority to address flooding and erosion concerns in the Palm City Farms Watershed. The proposed modifications will reduce or eliminate the risk of future damage and increase protection. The request to apply for HMGP funds was approved by the Board on May 20, 2025. Since then, the granting agency has requested additional information from the County during the application phase, prior to award. The granting agency is requesting the County to sign a Maintenance Agreement to accept responsibility for the routine maintenance of any real property, structures, or facilities acquired or constructed as a result of a proposed Federal grant award. The Maintenance Agreement will go into effect only if the County receives the grant award.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$5,625,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – The total cost of construction is estimated at \$7,500,000. HMGP is a cost-reimbursement grant program with a 75% FEMA contribution of the total amount approved. The total amount of HMGP funds is \$5,625,000. The County must provide the remaining 25% of non-federal share equal to \$1,875,000. If awarded, the 25% non-federal share and any additional funds required for construction are budgeted in the Stormwater Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Lack of grant funding will impact the acceleration of projects to increase protection and reduce risk of future flood damage.

- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – The County will seek alternative funding or utilize budgeted roadway CIP funds.

Documents Requiring Action:

- HMGP Maintenance Agreement

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Chair, as the HMGP Authorized Agent, to sign the Maintenance Agreement for the Florida Department of Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the Bessey Creek Retrofit Project; and
- Move that the Board authorize the Chair, as the HMGP Authorized Agent, to sign any additional grant application documents upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney's Office.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

2. **Permission to Apply for the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program – Golden Gate Multimodal Corridor and Drainage Resilience Project**

- **Requestor** – Office of Community Development
- **Granting Agency** – USDOT
- **Project Description** – Fund final design and permitting (Planning, Development, and Environment (PS&E) / construction readiness) for the Golden Gate Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Multimodal Corridor and Drainage Resilience Project. This strategy builds on Martin County's recent investments in Golden Gate, including Phase 1 of El Camino and neighborhood resurfacing, and advances community-supported planning into a permit-ready, bid-ready plan set for phased construction delivery.

BUILD funds will support surveys, subsurface utility engineering, geotechnical investigation, final design plan development, environmental documentation (as applicable), and permitting. The resulting PS&E packages will integrate complete streets elements such as sidewalk gap closures, ADA curb ramps, safer crossings, speed management, bicycle/shared-use path connections, pedestrian lighting, and transit stop accessibility, along with integrated corridor drainage elements that improve roadway reliability during heavy rainfall and strengthen connectivity toward the Golden Gate Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)

- **Requested Grant Award** – \$3,860,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – A total grant match of \$964,876. Of this amount, \$488,500 will be provided as in-kind match through projected staff salaries and fringe benefits over the project period. The remaining \$476,376 will be funded through Golden Gate Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds and Ecosystem Capital funds budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), for a total project budget of \$4,824,876. A Funding Commitment and Non-Federal Match Confirmation letter is required from the County (attached).
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant and maintain the facilities.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – If not approved, the County will be unable to bring the program to construction readiness and will face delays and continued cost escalation, limiting progress on critical safety, accessibility, connectivity, and flood-resilience improvements across the Golden Gate CRA.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – The County would forgo the opportunity to leverage federal funding to complete final design and permitting, increasing exposure to cost escalation and prolonging community impacts from flooding disruptions and safety risks.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Funding Commitment and Non-Federal Match Confirmation letter

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Office of Community Development Director or designee to apply for the FY2026 U.S. Department of Transportation BUILD Grant for the Golden Gate Multimodal Corridor and Drainage Resilience Project and sign other non-monetary documents related to this grant upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney's Office.
- Move that the Board authorize the County Administrator to sign the Funding Commitment and Non-Federal Match Confirmation letter.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

3. **Permission to Apply for the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program Grant – Competing Continuation (Year 6) (Opportunity #: CDC-RFA-CE20-20040601CONT25)**

- **Requestor** – Human Services
- **Granting Agency** – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
- **Project Description** – This funding will support the Years 6-10 continuation of the goals and efforts of the Martin County Community Action Coalition, as part of Martin County Human Services. The Coalition works to establish and strengthen community collaboration in support of local efforts to prevent youth substance use.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$125,000 per year for 5 years.
- **Budgetary Impact** – Grant Match of \$125,000 in the first year, \$156,250 in the second and third years, and \$187,500 in the fourth and fifth years of the funding cycle, to be accumulated through in-kind match consisting of Martin County staff time, Coalition member time, and meeting/office space costs, as well as cash match, as needed, through related supports and efforts funded through local opioid settlement funds.
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – If not approved, the Martin County Community Action Coalition will not be able to function as an actionable group and will struggle to meet desired outcomes.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – If not approved, the Martin County

Community Action Coalition will not have dedicated funding to be able to initiate youth substance use prevention work in the community.

Documents Requiring Action:

- None at this time

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize Human Services to apply for the Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grant – Competing Continuation (Year 6); and
- Move that the Board authorize George Stokus, Assistant County Administrator, to be the authorized representative to sign the grant application, as the application is completed online through www.grants.gov, and any other non-monetary documents related to this grant.

PERMISSION TO ACCEPT

4. **Permission to Accept the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Public Transportation Grant 457125-1-94-01 for the Vehicle Gate and Security Improvements at the Martin County Airport (SUA)**

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – FDOT
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – FDOT and Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – Grant award of \$120,000 to install an additional airport perimeter access control security gate and security equipment to prevent direct access to the airport movement area.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – New
- **Duration** – Date of Execution to December 31, 2027
- **Benefits to Martin County** – FDOT grant will cover 80% (\$120,000) of the total cost (\$150,000) to install an access control security gate.
- **Cost to Martin County** –
 - a. Local share of 20% (\$30,000) will be provided from the Airport Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). There is no associated operating cost.
 - b. Staff time to administer the grant

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Airport will need to reprogram funding which would increase project time and cost.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Airport will need to fund the improvements without grant assistance.

Documents Requiring Action:

- FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement
- Budget Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement;

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- Move that the Board authorize the County Administrator or designee to execute any non-monetary grant related documents upon review and concurrence of the County Attorney's Office; and
- Move that the Board adopt the Budget Resolution.

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DGD/SM/rp
Attachments