

Supplemental Memorandum



Date: August 17, 2026
To: Honorable Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Via: Don G. Donaldson, P.E., County Administrator
From: Stephanie Merle, Director of the Office of Management & Budget
Reference: 26-0810
Subject: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE BOARD APPROVAL

PERMISSION TO APPLY

1. **Permission to Apply for the FY 27-28 Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Infrastructure Grant for the Boy Scout Island Stabilization Project**

- **Requestor** – Public Works Department, Environmental Resource Division
- **Granting Agency** – FDEP
- **Project Description** – This grant application is to provide funds for the stabilization of Boy Scout Island within the Indian River Lagoon that is owned by Martin County, Florida, using a hybrid living shoreline design to benefit local maintained channels within the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) and preserve boating access. Boy Scout Island is a spoil island located within the Indian River Lagoon near the St. Lucie Inlet. Since its formation in the early 1960s, the island has experienced persistent shoreline erosion driven by tidal currents and wind-generated wave action. It has lost approximately 77% of its original area, highlighting the need for stabilization measures that support both ecological function and continued recreational and educational use. This grant will fund construction of a hybrid living shoreline project to mitigate erosion to Boy Scout Island. The proposed project will stabilize the shoreline, reduce erosion, improve water quality, enhance near-shore habitats, maintain recreational and educational access, and provide community involvement opportunities.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$400,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – Grant match of \$400,000 expected to stem from a future Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) grant source. No County funds are proposed as match.
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – Lack of grant funding will impact progress towards the stabilization of Boy Scout Island.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Seek alternative funding.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Board Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Public Works Director or designee to apply for the FY 27-28 Resilient Florida Infrastructure Grant to fund the Boy Scout Island Stabilization Project; and
- Move that the Board adopt the Board Resolution in support of this Project.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

2. Permission to Apply for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Grant for the MC-2 Shoreline Stabilization Project

- **Requestor** – Public Works Department
- **Granting Agency** – FDEP
- **Project Description** – The purpose of this grant funding will be to construct a breakwater to stabilize the shoreline, add fill material 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** – \$500,000
- **Budgetary Impact** – Grant match of \$500,000 to come from the FY27 Ecosystem Management 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 FY27 FDEP Resilient Florida program funding for the MC-2 Shoreline Stabilization Project.

3. Permission to Apply for Funding from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) for Derelict Vessel Removal Funds

- **Requestor** – Building Department
- **Granting Agency** – FIND
- **Project Description** – Fourteen vessels throughout the waterways of Martin County have been determined to be derelict. Martin County, through its derelict vessel program, hired a contractor to remove the vessels from the water and dispose of them. The FIND grant program may fund up to 75% of removal costs, with a total annual cap of \$150,000 per fiscal year per county.
- **Requested Grant Award** – \$53,482.50
- **Budgetary Impact** – The grant match of \$17,827.50 is available in the County's derelict vessel removal program and has already been expended for these vessels.
- **Annual operating costs** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The derelict vessels will still need to be removed by the County.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Martin County will be responsible for 100% of the removal costs, \$71,310.

Documents Requiring Action:

- None

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Building Department Director or designee to apply for the funding from the FIND Small Scale Derelict Vessel Grant Program for 75% of the cost to remove the fourteen derelict vessels.

PERMISSION TO ACCEPT

4. **Permission to Accept the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Project Agreement Amendment to Grant No. MA-24-95 Charlie Leighton Park Boat Ramp Renovation**

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – FIND
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – FIND and Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – The project agreement amendment will extend the period of performance until September 30, 2027, for the Charlie Leighton Park Boat Ramp Renovation. This is a non-monetary amendment for a time extension only.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – Modified
- **Duration** – Until September 30, 2027
- **Benefits to Martin County** – This time extension agreement allows for additional time to complete the construction of the project.
- **Cost to Martin County** – Staff time to administer the grant. No local grant match is required.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The County would not complete the project within the original period of performance and would be fully responsible for all financial impacts for implementation of the Charlie Leighton Park Boat Ramp Renovation project.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – The County would forfeit \$585,000 or 42% of the total project cost, whichever is less of participating costs.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Project Agreement Amendment

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the FIND Project Agreement Amendment to grant agreement No. MA-24-95; and
- 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.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

5. **Permission to Accept the BJA FY 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – Local Formula Award 15PBJA-25-GG-03012-JAGX**

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – Maureen A. Henneberg, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP)
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – DOJ and Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – The grant agreement will fund the Martin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), Traffic Unit to enhance traffic crash investigation and roadway safety operations through the acquisition of a Leica Zeno FLX 100 laser scanning system. The total award for this project is \$21,112.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – New
- **Duration** – October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2027
- **Benefits to Martin County** – Enables MCSO, Traffic Unit, to offset costs for equipment. This equipment will help to improve the accuracy, efficiency, and safety of traffic crash scene documentation and reconstruction.
- **Cost to Martin County** – There is no match requirement within this grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The financial amount to offset costs for equipment is currently needed. If the funding is not accepted to apply towards equipment items, it prevents safety enhancement of the Martin County Sheriff's Office, Traffic Unit.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – MCSO current budget does not allow for the additional requested items.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Grant Agreement Electronic Signature

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the County Administrator to electronically execute the BJA FY 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program – Local Formula Award 15PBJA-25-GG-03012-JAGX on behalf of the Chair; and
- 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.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

6. Permission to Accept the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund (EMPA) Grant

- **Agreement/Contract drafted by** – State of Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
- **Parties to the Agreement/Contract** – FDEM and the Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- **Purpose of the Agreement/Contract** – Funding for salary, training, and planning to enhance Emergency Management programs totaling \$105,806.
- **New/Renewal/Modified** – New (contract is awarded annually)
- **Duration** – July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
- **Benefits to Martin County** – Grant award of \$105,806 to enable the County to enhance planning projects, provide for technology, equipment and supplies needed, as well as programs to meet mandates. Most importantly, this grant provides for program needs to ensure the safety and protection of residents.
- **Cost to Martin County** – Staff time to administer the grant.

Alternative Action:

- **Programmatic Implication if not approved** – The majority of the Emergency Management Division budget is grant funded which supports the technical operation of the Emergency Operations Center as well as training and community outreach programs. The current General Fund match would not be enough to support these programs on its own.
- **Financial Fiscal impact if not approved** – Funds would not be available for this program.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Grant Agreement
- Budget Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the EMPA agreement;
- 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; and
- Move that the Board adopt the Budget Resolution.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

OTHER OMB ITEMS

7. Adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is requesting approval to modify the fiscal year 2026 budget per Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). These adjustments are necessary to align revenues and expenditures to reflect activities as well as make corrections, budgeted transfers, and budget transfers from reserves as follows:

A. Budget Resolution to Accept 25/26 SHIP Funding

Florida Housing Finance Corporation administers the State Housing Initiatives Partnership program (SHIP), which provides funds to local governments as an incentive to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable homeownership and multifamily housing.

Martin County has been allocated an additional \$34,787 in SHIP funds for the 25/26 funding cycle to assist qualified homeowners to bring their homes up to current code requirements and quality of life standards. The funding will assist qualified households with sewer and water hookups, home demolition/replacement, and rental assistance. The Office of Management and Budget requests the adoption of a Budget Resolution to allocate these funds.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Budget Resolution

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board adopt the Budget Resolution.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

B. Budget Transfer from Capital Reserves Request from Utilities Department

Martin County Utilities is asking for permission to transfer money from capital reserves for the Floridan Raw Watermain Extension for the Tropical Farms Reverse Osmosis Well #8. Originally, well #8 and the raw watermain were included in the Tropical Farms Expansions project approved by the BOCC during the FY25 CIP workshop. The project is fully designed and ready for construction. To accelerate the completion, a decision was made to separate the construction bids for the well and raw watermain from the Tropical Farms Expansion project. Funding for the project is available from the Utilities capital reserves. The construction bid came in at \$445,760. The project also requires a 10% contingency in the amount of \$44,576, as well as \$38,556 for construction phase engineering services. The total budget transfer requested is \$528,892.

Documents Requiring Action:

- Budget Transfer from Reserves

Recommendation:

- Move that the Board authorize a budget transfer from capital reserves for the Floridan Raw Watermain Extension for the Tropical Farms Reverse Osmosis Well #8 in the amount of \$528,892.

Reviewed by County Attorney's Office

DGD/SM/rp
Attachments