



LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Scott Morgan, Interim City Manager

THRU: Gabriel Bowden, Utilities Director

DATE: March 6, 2025

RE: Consideration of submitting a grant application for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Nonpoint Source Management Grants Program.

SUMMARY:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) will be accepting applications for Nonpoint Source Management Grants through March 31, 2025. The goal of these grants is to reduce nonpoint source pollution. Nonpoint source pollution is pollution of water (or air) that does not originate from a single source, it is the cumulative effect of small amounts of contaminants from a large area. Private septic systems can be a major contributor of nonpoint source pollution. Eligible projects under this grant includes septic to sewer conversions on private property.

On November 2, 2023, Council approved the City's Mandatory Connection Ordinance 2023-101, which mandates the connection of properties on well and septic where City water and sewer is readily available. This grant would help offset the cost to the homeowner for such connection.

The Utilities Department is requesting approval to submit an application under the Nonpoint Source Management Grants program in the amount of \$1 million. The grant requires a 40% match (\$400,000), if awarded the full amount.

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT:

Utilities

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Utilities Department has available funds to meet the \$400,000 match within the Utilities Undesignated Fund Balance. Upon grant award, the Utilities Department would bring back a grant agreement and request a budget amendment to appropriate the matching funds.

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to authorize the Utilities Department to submit a grant application under the FDEP Nonpoint Source Management Grants Program.