



LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Matthew Morton, City Manager

THRU: Christeen Sullivan, Acting Public Works Director

DATE: May 15, 2025

RE: Consideration of accepting a grant award and authorizing an agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Norwood Water Quality Improvement Project.

SUMMARY:

Council approved an emergency contract with Don Luchetti Construction on February 6, 2025, for the repair and replacement of the damaged drainage system caused by Hurricane Milton. At that time, Council approved the emergency contract in the amount of \$3,132,314 and additional funding allocation from the Stormwater Utility Fund bringing the budgeted amount of Stormwater Utility Funds to \$3,238,674.

Prior to the emergency event, the City of Palm Bay submitted a Florida Department of Environmental Protection application for the Water Quality Improvement Grant and the Indian River Lagoon Water Quality Improvement Grant Programs, requesting \$1.8 million with a City match of \$400,000 from Project 18SU08 for the Norwood Water Quality Improvement Project. The City was awarded \$1.8 million from the Indian River Lagoon Water Quality Improvement Program Funds to replace two baffle boxes and two corrugated metal pipe culverts with one nutrient separating baffle box, one box culvert, a piping box culvert system, curb inlets and box culvert end treatment at the Norwood location. The City has received the FDEP standard grant agreement, Norwood Water Quality Improvement Project agreement LG015. The agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney Office. Staff received authorization from Council on May 16, 2024, to seek Water Quality Improvement Program Grant Funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and match commitments.

This project is currently fully funded with stormwater utility fee funds, and it is under construction at this time. The grant allows for reimbursement after July 1, 2024. The notice to proceed with this project was February 14, 2025. All work being done at this time will be reimbursed up to \$1,800,000. Any remaining funding after completion and reimbursement will be returned to the stormwater fund balance.

REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS:

Public Works

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is a cost reimbursement grant program. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will reimburse the City for allowable expenditures based on the terms and conditions in the agreement in the amount of \$1,800,000. The City match will be paid from stormwater fund balance budgeted in Project 18SU08 Norwood Baffle Box Retrofit.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to 1) approve acceptance of the grant award from FDEP, and 2) authorize the Mayor and/or designated City official to execute the grant agreement.

ATTACHMENT:

1. FDEP Standard Grant Agreement LG015