# Brevard County Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Citizen Oversight Committee



July 19, 2024 – 8:30 to 11:30 am Brevard County Government Center 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Florida Room Viera, Florida 32940

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Progress and Fiscal Reports
  - a) Monthly Progress Report Virginia Barker, Director
  - b) Monthly Revenue Graph & Financial Statements Molly Bryan, Fiscal Analyst
  - c) Quarterly Outreach Report Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
- VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations
  - a) From the "Ground" Up: An Initial Look at Groundwater Nutrient Concentrations
     Post-Septic and Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades Laura Thompson,
     Environmental Specialist II, and Dr. Leesa Souto, Director of Operations,
     Applied Ecology
  - b) Water Quality Trends in the Indian River Lagoon Don Deis, Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee
  - c) Video Cocoa Beach McNabb Bioretention Project
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
  - a) Cost Share Rates for 2025 Plan Update
  - b) Eau Gallie Muck Removal Project Scope and Funding
  - IX. General Public Comments
  - X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members
  - XI. Adjournment

# Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2024 – 8:30 a.m. 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Florida Room Viera, FL 32940

#### **Members Present:**

Expertise	Member	Present	Alternate	Present
Science	Lorraine Koss	No	Charles Venuto	Yes
Technology	Vinnie Taranto-Chair	Yes	Don Deis	No
Education	Stephany Eley	Yes	Kimberly Newton	Yes
Finance	Todd Swingle	Yes	Curt Smith	No
Tourism	Bobby Putnam	Yes	Laurilee Thompson	Yes
Real Estate	Barbara Wall-Scanlon – Vice Chair	Yes	Eric Mannes	Yes
Lagoon Advocacy	John Windsor	Yes	Terry Casto	Yes

#### Staff Present:

Virginia Barker, Brevard County Natural Resources Management Director Heather Balser, Assistant County Attorney
Terri Breeden, Environmental Section Supervisor
Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
Jenny Hansen, Environmental Scientist
Cole Stubbe, Engineer I
Lori Pierce, Accountant I
Aleah Ataman, Associate Environmental Specialist
Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist
Melanie Howarter, Associate Environmental Specialist
Joshua Hibbard, Contract Administrator
Jaculin Watkins, Executive Secretary

#### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

#### II. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

# III. Approval of the Agenda

John Windsor moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Barbara Wall-Scanlon.

There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

## IV. Approval of Minutes

John Windsor moved to approve the Minutes; seconded by Charles Venuto.

There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

# V. Progress and Fiscal Reports

## a. Monthly Progress Report - Virginia Barker, Director

Virginia Barker presented a review the Monthly Progress Report for May, and an update on seagrass extent changes. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

## b. Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statements – Lori Pierce, Accountant I

The Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statement were reviewed by Lori Pierce.

# c. Quarterly Finance and Grant Statement - Lori Pierce, Accountant I

The Quarterly Finance and Grant Statement was reviewed by Lori Pierce.

# d. Quarterly Project Update – Terri Breeden, Environmental Section Supervisor

The Quarterly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Performance Table Update was presented by Terri Breeden. Discussion ensued. Staff responded to the Committee's questions.

## VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations

# a. Sykes Creek Biological Monitoring – Dr. Kevin Johnson, Associate Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics and Professor of Biology, Tarleton State University

Dr. Kevin Johnson gave a PowerPoint presentation on biological monitoring in Sykes Creek. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker and Dr. Johnson responded to the Committee's questions.

(Ten-minute break)

# b. Mechanical Dewatering and Nutrient Stripping – Jake Little, President, Gator Aquatic Technologies

Mr. Jake Little gave a PowerPoint presentation on the process of mechanical dewatering and nutrient stripping of muck removed from the Indian River Lagoon. Discussion ensued. Mr. Little and staff responded to the Committee's questions.

# c. Pineda Dredge Material Management Area (DMMA) Temporary Use Agreement Update – Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist

Abbey Gering provided an update on the status of the DMMA temporary use agreement for the Pineda Grand Canal Muck Removal project. Discussion ensued. Ms. Gering and Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

(Bobby Putnam left the meeting at this time.)

# d. Eau Gallie Muck Dredging Bid Results – Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist

Abbey Gering presented information on the bid results for the Eau Gallie muck removal project. Discussion ensued. Ms. Gering and Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

(Stephanie Eley left the meeting at this time.)

#### VII. Old Business

No old business was heard.

#### VIII. New Business

# a. 2025 Plan Update Schedule – Terri Breeden, Environmental Program Supervisor

Terri Breeden reviewed the Draft 2025 Plan Update Schedule.

Todd Swingle moved to approve the Draft 2025 Project Plan Update Schedule as presented; seconded by John Windsor.

There was no public comment on the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

# Project Expansion and Funding Increase Request for the Brevard County Hog Point Oyster Bar Project – Jenny Hansen, PhD, CE, Environmental Scientist

Jenny Hansen provided an overview of the Brevard County Hog Point Oyster Bar project's request for additional funding, as final survey and permitting results showed that an additional 450 square feet can be constructed. This additional 450 square feet would result in higher total nitrogen reduction and would add \$8,550 total cost-share to the project.

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John Windsor moved to approve the Brevard County Hog Point Oyster Bar's request for additional funding in the amount of \$8,550; seconded by Laurilee Thompson.

There was no public comment on the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

# IX. General Public Comments

General public comments were heard.

# X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members

Final comments were heard.

# XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



# Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan July 2024 Progress Report

#### **WORK COMPLETED THIS MONTH:**

- Grant proposals prepared and submitted through the state portal for the following: North Merritt Island Zone E Septic to Sewer \$9,652,467, Sharpes B Septic to Sewer \$2,385,393, Quick Connects to Sewer \$2,700,000, Cove Condominium \$505,460, Skidmore Trailer Park conversion to Central Sewer \$366,990, Septic Upgrades \$900,000, Eau Gallie Causeway Northeast Muck Removal \$7,510,244, Sykes Creek Phase 2 Muck Removal \$4,324,002, Canaveral South Muck Removal Design and Permitting \$1,213,815, Sunnyland Canals Muck Removal Design and Permitting \$220,000, 528 Causeway Removal Feasibility Study \$350,000, Lagoon Circulation and Bloom Forecast Model \$295,065
- Leaky Lateral Repairs 3 non-code cases voluntarily resolved for a total of 17 to date; 662 of 691 code enforcement cases for detected private sewer leaks have been resolved
- Quick Connects 17 more reimbursements processed of 335 to date; 405 agreements executed
- Septic Upgrades 6 more reimbursements processed of 281 to date; 488 total agreements executed
- Derelict Vessels Removed: 2
- University of Central Florida reviewed years of recruitment data gathered at all monitoring sites and found increasing recruitment and increasing numbers of potentially reproductive oysters, especially 1) in the last 2 years, 2) in south Brevard, and 3) in open water sites, with peak recruitment in 2023
- Brevard Zoo Completed the North IRL Oyster project 21,600 sq ft of oyster reef was constructed and Hog Point Oyster Breakwater Construction completed 3,600 sq ft of oyster reef constructed
- Seagrass and Oyster Restoration Resilience Project Construction and planting complete
- Contracts executed Spring Creek Baffle Box Amendment 1; North IRL Oyster Projects 2 & 3
   Amendment 1; Micco Groundwater Monitoring Task Order; 2 State grants for \$900,000 and \$1,800,000
- Videos: Cocoa Beach McNabb Outfall Bioretention

#### **WORK UNDERWAY THIS MONTH:**

- South Central C Septic-to-Sewer 81 of 150 homeowner connections completed
- Micco Sewer Line Extension 96% complete; lift station connected to power; start-up to be scheduled
- Brevard County Septic-to-Sewer preparing to bid Sykes Creek Zone M, N & T, South Banana Zone B, and South Beaches Zones O & P; 100% design received for Sykes Creek M & T and Merritt Island Zone F; 90% design underway for Merritt Island Zone C; 75% design underway for Sykes Creek Zones R and North Merritt Island Zone E; 30% and 75% design in progress simultaneously for South Central D; 30% design under review for Cocoa Zone C and Sharpes Zone B; 30% design underway for Sharpes Zones A, Micco Zone B, and Merritt Island Zones G
- Sharpes Zone B land acquisition Escrow deposit made; closing date is 9/6/24
- Titusville Causeway Multi-Tropic Restoration and Living Shorelines Resiliency staging area established
- Basin 1304 West Arlington and Basin 1280B Going out to bid this month
- Basin 1066 Angel Ave geotechnical analysis complete
- Grand Canal Muck Dredging underway- approximately 365,179 cubic yards dredged as of 6/20/2024
- Sykes Creek Muck Dredging Kiwanis Island Park restoration underway
- Contracts 6 grant contracts in review; 5 amendments in review; 4 in draft
- Federal Appropriations Preparing contract docs for Septic Upgrades and Eau Gallie Muck Removal
- Education and Outreach Seagrass planting video and Scoping first annual Task Order with SparkTide

Complete	95	Save Our Indian River Lagoon Plan Project Progress	
In Progress	96		
Complete + In Prog	ress	191	
Total Projects in th	e Plan	43	32

#### PRESENTATIONS THIS MONTH:

July 5 – Interview on Litter Impacts to the Lagoon and Marine Life – Virginia

July 7 – Brevard Zoo Science Sundays – Brandon

July 14 – Brevard Zoo Science Sunday – Aleah

### **UPCOMING LAGOON SCIENCE FORUMS AND PUBLIC EVENTS:**

July 24 – Marine Resources Council – Inspirational Hour

July 25 – Ocean Research and Conservation Association – Buffered Shoreline Monitoring Training

August 6 – Marine Resources Council – Lagoon at Noon Seminar

#### **UPCOMING VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

July 16 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Pollution Mapping Supply Prep – Email Natalie

July 16 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Water Sample Prep – Register with Lauren Kleiman

July 20 – Keep Brevard Beautiful Cape Crossing Cleanup

July 24 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Fish Processing – Register with Missy Weiss

July 27 – Marine Resource Council Mangrove Workshop

July 29 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Fish Processing – Register with Missy Weiss

July 31 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Nursery Maintenance – Register with Wyatt Martin

August 2 – Marine Resources Council First Friday Litter Patrol

August 9- Marine Resource Council Mangrove Workshop

August 22 – Keep Brevard Beautiful Sykes Creek Cleanup

Space Coast Surfrider Foundation Blue Water Task Force Monitoring – <u>Email Chis Baker for more information</u> Florida Horseshoe Crab Watch – <u>Email Holly Abeels for more information</u>

Ocean Research & Conservation Association pollution mapping equipment cleaning – Email Missy Weiss

Ocean Research & Conservation Association microplastic analysis – Email Missy Weiss

Rotary Park rain garden maintenance or storm drain marking in Cocoa – Email Carlos Cuevas

Pineda Waterway Warriors Cleanup – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at multiple locations – Email Sherill

### WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWSLETTER, AND REPORT LINKS:

<u>Lagoon Loyal Outreach & Engagement Landing Page</u>
<u>Save Our Indian River Lagoon Website</u>

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Facebook

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Instagram

Save Our Indian River Lagoon YouTube
Sign up for our Monthly Newsletter

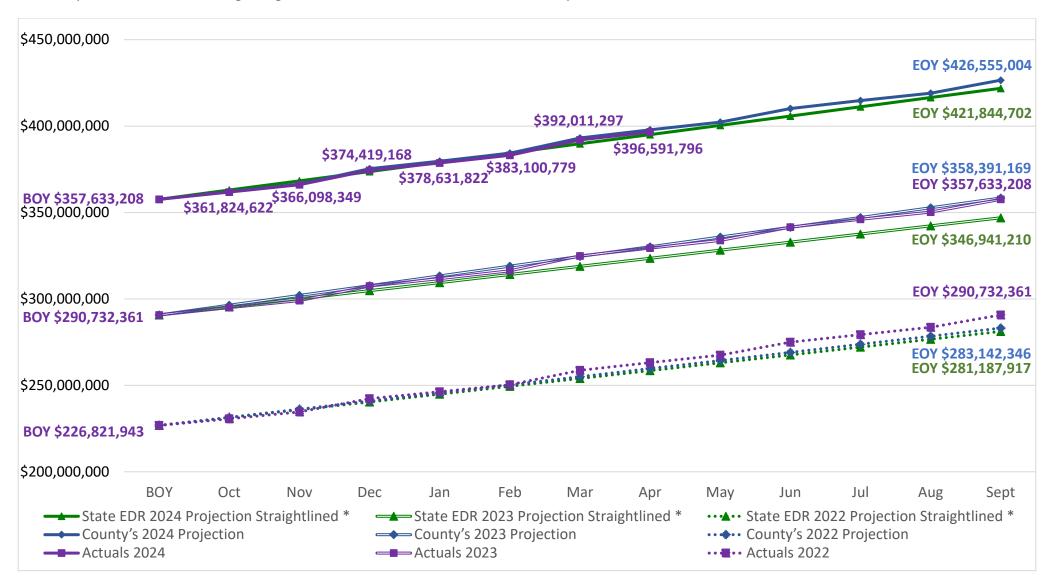
Sign up for our Weekly Harmful Algal Bloom Reports Visit Lagoon Loyal for home pollution reduction tips

### **FUTURE TOPICS FOR SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- 1. Project Performance Measurements and Cost-Effectiveness Results
- 2. Wastewater Treatment and Septic Upgrade Rules & Projected Impacts of Future Growth
- 3. Regional Wastewater Treatment Feasibility Study by the Economic Development Commission
- 4. Inground Nitrogen Reducing Bioreactor Septic Drain Field Pilot Project Findings
- 5. Lagoon Project Feasibility Study Update by St Johns River Water Management District
- 6. Water Quality and Seagrass Trends in the Lagoon
- 7. Lagoon Projects Managed and Funded by Other Agencies, Entities, or Grant Programs
- 8. Shoreline Armor and Living Shoreline Permitting Authorities, Rules, and Opportunities
- 9. Turf Grass Options and Alternatives
- 10. Integrated Herbicide Management
- 11. Innovative Technologies for Sensing, Predicting and Controlling Harmful Algae Blooms

# Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Graph Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year

- \* Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table
  - Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
  - EDR (Economic and Demographic Research) Data, BOY (Beginning of Year), EOY (End of Year)
  - For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year Table
  - Updated the State EDR Beginning of Year to match Actuals End of Year to the prior Fiscal Years



# Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year

Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table

- Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
- EDR (Economic and Demographic Research) Data, BOY (Beginning of Year), EOY (End of Year)
- For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year Table

Month	State EDR 2024 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2024 Projection	Actuals 2024	State EDR 2023 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2023 Projection	Actuals 2023	State EDR 2022 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2022 Projection	Actuals 2022
ВОҮ	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943
Oct	\$362,984,166	\$362,138,073	\$361,824,622	\$295,416,432	\$296,370,595	\$294,991,249	\$231,352,441	\$231,515,310	\$230,665,218
Nov	\$368,335,124	\$366,476,167	\$366,098,349	\$300,100,502	\$302,008,829	\$299,092,473	\$235,882,939	\$236,208,677	\$234,614,208
Dec	\$373,686,082	\$375,361,146	\$374,419,168	\$304,784,573	\$307,647,063	\$307,492,311	\$240,413,437	\$240,902,044	\$242,347,634
Jan	\$379,037,039	\$379,731,879	\$378,631,822	\$309,468,644	\$313,285,297	\$311,773,147	\$244,943,935	\$245,595,411	\$246,260,610
Feb	\$384,387,997	\$384,302,369	\$383,100,779	\$314,152,715	\$318,923,531	\$316,249,631	\$249,474,432	\$250,288,778	\$250,342,140
Mar	\$389,738,955	\$393,126,019	\$392,011,297	\$318,836,785	\$324,561,765	\$324,891,795	\$254,004,930	\$254,982,145	\$258,706,447
Apr	\$395,089,913	\$397,793,163	\$396,591,796	\$323,520,856	\$330,199,999	\$329,462,945	\$258,535,428	\$259,675,512	\$263,179,622
May	\$400,440,871	\$402,313,719		\$328,204,927	\$335,838,233	\$333,890,522	\$263,065,926	\$264,368,879	\$267,470,408
Jun	\$405,791,829	\$410,178,239		\$332,888,998	\$341,476,467	\$341,593,283	\$267,596,424	\$269,062,246	\$275,034,484
Jul	\$411,142,786	\$414,778,122		\$337,573,068	\$347,114,701	\$346,098,557	\$272,126,922	\$273,755,612	\$279,374,282
Aug	\$416,493,744	\$419,010,706		\$342,257,139	\$352,752,935	\$350,244,084	\$276,657,419	\$278,448,979	\$283,600,235
Sept	\$421,844,702	\$426,555,004		\$346,941,210	\$358,391,169	\$357,633,208	\$281,187,917	\$283,142,346	\$290,732,361

# FY 2024 Monthly Financial Statement

Save Our Indian River Lagoon
Date Range 01 October 2023 – 03 July 2024

\*Total Assigned YTD-Year to Date, includes all stages of accounting for expenditures, with data derived from Systems, Applications and Products program

Revenues	Budget	Т	otal Assigned YTD*	% Earned
Taxes	\$ 68,724,435	\$	38,958,588	56.69%
Interest Earned	\$ 8,448,058	\$	7,568,710	89.59%
Other Federal Grants	\$ 8,703,714	\$	-	0.00%
Other State Grants	\$ 33,777,147	\$	2,161,150	6.40%
Tourism Development Council Grants	\$ 263,158	\$	4,062	1.54%
Other Physical Environmental Grants	\$ 1,646,543	\$	321,777	19.54%
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 2,907,840	\$	-	0.00%
Statutory Reduction	\$ (6,078,155)	\$	-	0.00%
Balance Forward	\$ 296,802,384	\$	303,180,205	102.15%
Total	\$ 415,195,124	\$	352,194,492	84.83%

Expenditures (Roll-Up)		Budget	Total	Assigned YTD*		Actuals
Compensation & Benefits	\$	1,400,177	\$	1,399,907	\$	915,252
Operating Expenses	\$	266,244	\$	164,136	\$	144,869
Capital Outlay	\$	114,502	\$	103,804	\$	98,032
SOIRL Projects funded under Operating						
Expenses	\$	3,604,749	\$	1,932,035	\$	703,878
(Non-Capital County Project & Programs)						
SOIRL Projects funded under Capital						
Improvement	\$	190,424,485	\$	28,023,646	\$	5,582,067
(County Projects over \$35K)						
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Gov't						
Agencies	\$	98,719,082	\$	24,178,207	\$	905,312
(Cities & Water Management Districts)						
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to						
Private Organizations	\$	38,084,114	\$	9,104,493	\$	5,137,095
(Property Owners & Non-Government	Ş	30,004,114	۶	9,104,495	Ş	5,157,095
Organizations)						
Contingency	\$	15,828,710	\$	-	\$	-
Reserves						
(for approved projects scheduled beyond	\$	66,753,061	\$	-	\$	-
this fiscal year)						
Total	\$	415,195,124	\$ 64	1,906,228	\$	13,486,505







# Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee July 19, 2024

# Agenda Item:

VIII. a. New Business

Title:

Proposed cost share eligibility by project type for projects proposed for the 2025 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update

## **Requested Action:**

Motion to recommend offering the same cost shares that were offered in 2024 for project proposals for the 2025 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update

# **Summary Explanation and Background:**

Draft cost shares are based on the average cost of each project type approved in the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan, as amended, with the following exceptions:

- The cost share for Package Plant Connection to Central Sewer reflects the Board of County Commissioner's approved rate of \$1500 per pound of nitrogen load reduction for connection to central sewer
- A cost share for Septic Upgrades of \$1200 per pound of nitrogen load reduction as approved by the Board of County Commissioners in the 2022 Plan Update
- The \$114 rate for Vegetation Harvesting is based on the average cost of all projects except the Melbourne Tillman project and the large County project, both of which are not representative of typical project costs due to their large economies of scale
- The Stormwater Treatment Projects by location: \$357 on the Mainland, \$380 on Merritt Island, and \$409 on the Beaches are based on the treatment of priority basins and excludes the M1-Crane Creek Re-diversion Project, which is not representative of typical project costs due to its large economy of scale







Project Type	2024 Cost-share Rate per Pound per Year of Total Nitrogen (with 5-year capped inflation)	2025 Cost-share Rate per Pound per Year of Total Nitrogen		
Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades for Reclaimed Water	\$431	\$431		
Package Plant Connections	\$1,500	\$1,500		
Sewer Lateral Rehabilitation	\$289	\$289		
Septic-to-Sewer by Extension	\$1,553	\$1,553		
Septic System Upgrades	\$1,200	\$1,200		
Stormwater Projects (Priority Basins)	-	-		
Mainland	\$357	\$357		
Merritt Island	\$380	\$380		
Beaches	\$409	\$409		
Vegetation Harvesting (excluding M-T and County projects)	\$114	\$114		
Muck Removal	\$607	\$607		
Treatment of Muck Interstitial Water	\$124	\$124		
Oyster Bar	\$475	\$475		
Planted Shorelines	\$259	\$259		



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee July 19, 2024

# Agenda Item:

VIII. b. New Business

### Title:

Scope of Muck Removal Northeast of the Eau Gallie Causeway

# **Requested Action:**

Motion to recommend downscaling the project volume up to 10% but maintaining the flux reduction target as is, and using the funding allocated for both Muck Removal and Interstitial Treatment (IT) to bid dredging only, but potentially negotiating IT as a change order if additional grant funds are secured.

# **Summary Explanation and Background:**

Muck removal in the Eau Gallie area of the Indian River was included in the original 2016 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan with an allocation of \$26,250,000 to remove 750,000 cubic yards from 692 acres. In the 2018 Plan Update, the project was refined and downsized to \$8,750,000 to remove 250,000 cubic yards from 73 acres located in the Northeast portion of the extensive original project area. In the same year, the treatment of interstitial water was added as a project type, and \$1,270,487 was allocated to treat the discharge from the refined Eau Gallie Northeast project. The 2024 Plan Update allocated the contingency for inflation to individual projects, which increased the Trust Funds available for this project to \$10,452,405 for dredging and \$1,517,674 for interstitial treatment. The 2024 plan also noted an increased volume of muck in the Northeast area with slightly higher flux, but did not increase funding to expand dredging or treatment.

Two Legislative Appropriations have been awarded and contracted for this project: LPA 474 for \$5,010,244 and LPA 146 for \$2,500,000. A Legislative Appropriation of \$1,500,000 in the FY24-25 Appropriations bill was vetoed by the Governor in June. In sum, the total budget available for construction is about \$19,200,000.

For the purpose of maximizing nutrient removal using the sales tax and grants, an area exceeding what was funded in the Plan, was included in the County's permit applications for the project. The volume included in the bid documents advertised from March to May was 488,057 cubic yards. The bid documents were structured with a base bid and four optional areas to allow the County to award extra volumes to maximize nutrient reduction benefits and fit within the project budget. However, the price sheet submitted by the sole bidder did not contain a



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combination of options that met the nutrient reduction benefits stated in the Plan for the available budget, therefore the bid was rejected by the Board on May 21st.

To increase competition, decrease contractor risk, decrease overall costs, and maximize project benefits, a questionnaire was sent to the 11 vendors who attended the pre-bid construction meeting. From their responses, we learned:

- Bidders without experience in interstitial treatment were concerned about the performance payment terms of the County's contract.
- Multi-year projects need a price escalation clause for fuel and truck-hauling.
- Vendors want more time to secure beneficial use/disposal agreements.
- Mobilization/demobilization and down-day costs could be reduced by avoiding clay, which slows dewatering and increases haul volume.
- A larger cutterhead that needs fewer booster pumps could be feasible if the contractor could avoid short-face cut areas.
- Interstitial treatment efficiency can be improved by pausing treatment during short-face cuts.

Additional flux data was collected this summer after the bid was rejected. Using this latest data, the project can be further refined to target the removal of approximately 230,000 cy from 81.7 acres with a flux reduction benefit of 10,575 pounds of Total Nitrogen per year. This would target 92% of the 250,000 cubic yard volume and exceed the 10,476 pounds flux reduction target of the 2018 Plan.

Section 5.1.2 of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan allows the Citizen Oversight Committee to recommend a scope reduction in response to extenuating circumstances including loss of additional funding. The revised funding amount is to be based on the revised amount of nitrogen removal multiplied by the eligible cost-share per pound removed. However, Section 5.1.1 allows the Citizen Oversight Committee to recommend a cost increase of less than 10% of the amount stated in the Plan, with revisions to be reflected in the next Annual Update.

Staff seeks a recommendation from the Citizen Oversight Committee to downscale the project volume up to 10%, keep the flux reduction and fund allocation as is, add a price escalation clause to the bid, avoid clay and focus on sufficiently deep muck with the highest flux. To increase competition and maximize benefits from all revenues allocated for the project, staff recommends bidding without a requirement for Interstitial Treatment but with the intent to negotiate adding interstitial treatment if additional grant funds are secured.