

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: June 11, 2019

TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Authorize a Project Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Palm Beach County Federal Shore Protection Project, Mid-Town Segment
Resolution No. 44-2019

DATE: May 30, 2019

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town staff recommends that Town Council approve Resolution No. 44-2019 authorizing the Mayor to execute a Project Partnership Agreement between the Town of Palm Beach and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for initial project construction and continued renourishments of the Palm Beach County Federal Shore Protection Project, Mid-Town Segment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

After years of work from the Mayor and Town staff, the Mid-Town Beach Nourishment project was included within a funding bill from U.S. Congress, specifically the 2018 Supplemental Bill. This Federal funding was the action needed in order to direct the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to manage Mid-Town as a Federal project. In order for the project to officially become a Federal project, a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) must be executed.

Over several months, Town staff has met and communicated regularly with USACE staff to identify the project limits and the applicable cost-share percentage. Based on this review of the Mid-Town beaches eligible for cost-sharing, the long-term Federal funding responsibility is expected to be on the order of approximately 50%. The actual cost-share and the detailed responsibilities for both parties will be outlined in the draft PPA expected to be received by the Town on June 6 in advance of the Town Council meeting. Once the Town has an opportunity to review, suggest changes, or approve as is, the draft document will be returned to USACE Headquarters in Washington, D.C. for development of the final draft. After approximately 2-3 weeks, the final draft will then be provided to the Town for the Mayor's signature.

Town staff is moving the project forward, including the PPA, as quickly as possible to ensure construction is completed sometime between November 2019 and April 2020. The USACE has been given congressional instruction to complete all projects funded through the Supplemental Bill by August 2020. In addition to the execution of the PPA, Town staff is in the process of gathering perpetual easements from 48 private properties within the Mid-Town project area. Town staff will not record easements received until the PPA has been signed by both parties. The USACE

is looking to have the PPA signed no later than July 10 so that they can solicit bids no later than early August.

FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT

The cost-sharing PPA with the USACE for Mid-Town will allow the Town to continue implementing projects within a fiscally-stable Coastal Management Program without any annual financial shortfalls in the foreseeable future.

TOWN ATTORNEY REVIEW

This proposed Resolution has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney for legal form and sufficiency. Upon receipt, the draft PPA will be provided to the Town Attorney for review.

Attachment

cc: Jane Le Clainche, Director of Finance
Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager