



# MEMORANDUM

## City of Venice

### Utilities Department

TO: Ed Lavallee, ICMA-CM, MPA, City Manager

THROUGH: Javier A. Vargas, MPA, Utilities Director

FROM: Patience Anastasio, Utilities Project Manager

DATE: February 19, 2020

COUNCIL APPROVAL: Yes

MEETING DATE: March 10, 2020

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: Upgrade and Maintain City Infrastructure and Facilities

SUBJECT: Approval to Execute Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) 2021 Cooperative Funding Agreement for a New Reclaimed Water Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Well System at the Eastside Water Reclamation Facility (EWRF).

Background: The City of Venice operates the Eastside Water Reclamation Facility (EWRF), which has a permitted capacity to treat up to 8 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater. Current average flows are about 2.5 MGD. For every gallon of wastewater treated, one gallon of reclaimed water must be reused or disposed. Reuse includes use as irrigation water and disposal includes discharge to surface water or the Sarasota County deep injection well. The reclaimed water that is produced every day must be stored until it is needed for irrigation. Storage can be in lined ponds, tanks, or in a deep aquifer. Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) is the process to store reclaimed water in a specific aquifer zone and is highly regulated by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation. ASR is by far the most cost-effective method of providing the millions of gallons of storage needed for a fully optimized reuse program.

In September 2019, Council authorized the Utilities Department to apply for a Cooperative Funding Grant from SWFWMD for the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Well project. The ASR project is currently (FY2020) in the first year of a five year design and construction schedule. This first stage includes 30% Design and a Third Party Review. The funding for each year is reviewed annually by SWFWMD.

In the initial application package which Council authorized September 25, 2018, a total of \$125,000 was requested for the first year. SWFWMD has requested this be increased to \$165,000 to include the Third Party Review. As this is a 50/50 matching grant, the City will be responsible for \$82,500. The City is

specifically requesting execution of the Grant Agreement with SWFWMD for the cooperative funding of the first phase of the Auifer Storage and Recovery Well project for a total of \$165,000.

Requested Action: Approval and execution of the Grant Agreement with SWFWMD for the cooperative funding of the first phase of the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well project for a total of \$165,000, of which the City's portion is \$82,500.

If for an agenda item, this document and any associated backup created by City of Venice staff has been reviewed for ADA compliance: N/A

City Attorney Review/Approved: Yes

Risk Management Review: Yes

Finance Department Review/Approved: Yes

Funds Availability (account number): 421-1204-535.63-00

**ORIGINAL(S) ATTACHED:** Work Assignment

Cc: Peter Boers, Procurement Manager; Linda Senne, Finance Director