

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, ENDORSING THE USE OF UNENCUMBERED MOBILITY IMPACT FEE AND PARK IMPACT FEE FUNDS FOR THE LAUREL ROAD PROJECT AND REQUESTING SARASOTA COUNTY TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FOR EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE LAUREL ROAD PROJECT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Venice (hereinafter the “City”) and Sarasota County (hereinafter the “County”) have prioritized and been working together toward approving and funding the expansion of and various improvements to the segment of Laurel Road from Knights Trail Road to Jacaranda Boulevard (hereinafter the “Laurel Road Project” and further described and detailed in Exhibit “A” attached hereto); and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 22, 2020, the County approved Contract No. 2020-532, a Locally Funded Agreement with the City for the preliminary design of the Laurel Road Project (“CIP Project No. 95862”) and provided Mobility Impact Fee funds in the amount of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) to the City for same; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 28, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-28, whereby it requested Sarasota County to designate the Laurel Road Project as a priority road project and endorsed the use of unencumbered and uncommitted Venice Road and Mobility Impact Fees for same; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 24, 2022, the County entered into a Locally Funded Agreement with the City through which the County agreed to provide funds for fiscal year 2022 for the final design and permitting of the Laurel Road Project; and,

**WHEREAS**, on August 23, 2022, the City entered into an Interlocal Agreement with the Laurel Road Community Development District (hereinafter the “Laurel Road CDD”) for the purpose of funding and carrying out all necessary actions for completion of the Laurel Road Project; and,

**WHEREAS**, on December 13, 2022, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2022-35, whereby it approved its Five-Year Capital Improvement Schedule for Fiscal Years 2023-2027 (the “Current CIS”), and under which it ranked the Laurel Road Project as number 1 for the Transportation Roadway Improvements schedule and the associated Northeast Linear Park<sup>1</sup> as number 14 for Functional Open Space (Parks) schedule; and,

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<sup>1</sup> The “Laurel Road Project,” as detailed in Exhibit “A” attached hereto, encompasses the Northeast Linear Park as part of the comprehensive project; therefore, references to the Laurel Road Project throughout this resolution include the Northeast Linear Park. The Northeast Linear Park is only distinguished here as it was identified separately in the “Current CIS.”

**WHEREAS**, upon completion of final design and permitting for the Laurel Road Project, which is anticipated to be complete by June 2023, construction of the project could commence subject to receipt of adequate funding for same; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County has unencumbered Mobility Impact Fee funds and Park Impact Fee funds, which are prioritized for use within the City, available to commit to the construction of the Laurel Road Project; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature may elect to appropriate and provide funding to a local government for a local project, upon such local government's application requesting same; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes that Laurel Road and abutting rights-of-way are properties of the County, and that as the property owner, the County possesses the rights and privileges attendant to altering, improving, and expanding Laurel Road; and,

**WHEREAS**, as the owner of Laurel Road, the County enjoys the right to pursue financial support from various regional, state, and federal funding sources for improvement and expansion of Laurel Road; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to coordinate with the County to move forward with funding the construction of the Laurel Road Project as detailed herein.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA**, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The above Whereas clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

**SECTION 2.** Subject to a grant from the Florida Legislature of funds for the Laurel Road Project, the City endorses the use of up to EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS (\$8,000,000.00) of unencumbered County Mobility Impact Fee funds and Park Impact Fee funds as a match for such grant.

**SECTION 3.** The City requests the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners to apply for a grant of EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS (\$8,000,000.00) from the Florida Legislature, and other appropriate state, regional and federal agencies, for the construction of the Laurel Road Project.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption, as provided by law.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VENICE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023.**

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Nick Pachota, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

I, Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Venice, Florida, a municipal corporation in Sarasota County, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and complete, true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Venice, Florida, at a meeting thereof duly convened and held on the 14th day of February 2023, a quorum being present.

WITNESS my hand and official seal of said City this 14th day of February 2023.

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Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

( S E A L )

Approved as to form:

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Kelly Fernandez, City Attorney

## **Exhibit A Laurel Road Project**

The Laurel Road widening project improves approximately 1.4 miles of existing Laurel Road from the intersection at Knights Trail Road east to the intersection of Jacaranda Boulevard. The improvements are generally considered to be the expansion of the number of travel lanes; addition of bike lanes, a median, sidewalks/ multiuse recreational trail; stormwater management/ drainage; utility corridor; and intersection improvements.

Multi-modal roadway improvements would provide increased resiliency, safety and capacity for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic on Laurel Road from Knights Trail Road to Jacaranda Boulevard, a hurricane evacuation route and main route to the nearby hospital and fire station. The project will also provide increased capacity for alternative routes to Interstate 75.