



MEMORANDUM TO VENICE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH CHARTER OFFICER: Edward Lavallee, City Manager

E-SIGN: JRC

FROM: Ricky Simpson, Director of Public Works ABC

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

DATE: 11/8/23

MEETING DATE: 11/28/23

SUBJECT / TOPIC: Parks Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Please find the following attachments for your review regarding the current Parks Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County. A PowerPoint Presentation has also been developed to explain the current Interlocal Agreement, as well as provide the details for consideration of a new Parks Interlocal Agreement.

- Staff Memo
- County Letter – July 2023
- City Letter – April 2023
- Cost estimate table – Public Works
- Wellfield Park – Map
- County wide map – showing Regional Sports Facilities
- Current 2011 Inter-Local Agreement
- Ed Memo, August 30
- County Expense Report FY22 – Nicole E-mail

To date, the City is currently in year 13 of the Parks agreement which will terminate October 1, 2026 (FY27). The original agreement was entered into in 1992 based on a settlement agreement with Sarasota County and the current agreement was executed voluntarily between the City and the County in 2011. The agreed upon term was 10 years which expired on October 1, 2021 (FY22) with an additional 5-year renewal. The City is currently 2 years and 2 months into that 5-year renewal with 2 years and 10 months remaining before expiration and termination.

With the terms of the current agreement, the County provides operation and maintenance services to 17 City parks at an average annual operating cost of \$3 million dollars. All capital replacement and maintenance (items costing over \$5000) are solely the responsibility of the City. Some examples of such items include: (1) equipment replacement (HVAC, lighting, electrical), (2) roofs, windows and fencing replacement, (3) re-decking boardwalks, (4) pavement and sidewalk replacement, (5) improvement projects & new amenities, (7) ADA upgrades, and (8) storm damages & vandalism.

There has been active and ongoing collaboration between City and County staff on the current Interlocal Agreement since 2018 with numerous staff level meetings held to discuss the overall approach to a new agreement. On April 11, 2023, the city sent a letter to Sarasota County regarding the Interlocal Agreement and the future opportunities to improve Wellfield Park. Sarasota County sent a response on July 12, 2023, that included a proposed “Statement of Principles” summarizing the updated framework for a new Parks Interlocal Agreement.

The Interlocal proposal includes the County managing all the regional parks (including the beaches), along with owning and maintaining Wellfield Park in perpetuity. Included in the proposal, the County has requested a partnership on a \$40 Million Capital Project (\$20 million county contribution/\$20 million city contribution) for the necessary improvement of the Wellfield Park athletic facilities. The city would assume operation and management of all the local City parks. This would also include full operation of the Venice Community Center, and the City would request that Chuck Reiter remain the operational responsibility of the County until Venice Little League is relocated at a future date.

The suggested City financial strategy to accomplish the statement of principles as outlined in the proposed new interlocal agreement would be as follows:

- FY25
 - \$50,000 Venice Community Center Business Plan
 - \$50,000 Wellfield Park Master Planning (County managed)
- FY26
 - \$450,000 Annual Operating (Staff and Equipment)
- FY27
 - \$1,000,000 Annual Operating (O&M for Local Parks)
 - Wellfield Project: \$5 Million from Reserves
 - Dedicate Future Park Impact Fees (up to the \$15 million)

Based on the information provided in the presentation, as well as the noted attachments, staff recommends an endorsement of the County terms for a new Parks Interlocal Agreement. A new parks agreement will allow for clear future direction for Venice Parks and the overall budget. Staff also supports the proposed significant project investment in Wellfield Park that will accomplish the necessary improvements to these athletic facilities and will ensure County management for the foreseeable future. In addition to bringing these facilities up to current standards, this project investment will also reduce all future City capital and operating liability for Wellfield Park.

The following actions are requested by Council regarding the Parks Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County: (1) Endorsement of the Statement of Principles proposed by the County with the request that Chuck Reiter remain the responsibility of the County until the future location of Venice Little League is determined and the league has been relocated, (2) endorsement of the funding strategy proposed, (3) direct staff to begin drafting a new interlocal agreement with Sarasota County, and (4) request for the County to start Wellfield Park Master Planning process.

SUPPORTS STRATEGIC PLAN: Goal Two: Provide Efficient, Responsive Government with High Quality Services

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED: Presentation with Action Requested

Cc: James Clinch, P.E., Assistant City Manager

Signature: *Ashlee Castle*

Email: ACastle@venicefl.gov

Signature: *James R. Clinch*

Email: jclinch@venicefl.gov

Memorandum - Parks Interlocal Agreement - Final

Final Audit Report

2023-11-09

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Created: | 2023-11-09 |
| By: | Ashlee Castle (ACastle@venicefl.gov) |
| Status: | Signed |
| Transaction ID: | CBJCHBCAABAAcY0ihjbZ08jRRllUWXWdLnpMu8Cv0aG8 |

"Memorandum - Parks Interlocal Agreement - Final" History

-  Document created by Ashlee Castle (ACastle@venicefl.gov)
2023-11-09 - 1:00:13 PM GMT- IP address: 50.236.154.174
-  Document e-signed by Ashlee Castle (ACastle@venicefl.gov)
Signature Date: 2023-11-09 - 1:02:24 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 50.236.154.174
-  Document emailed to James Clinch (jclinch@venicefl.gov) for signature
2023-11-09 - 1:02:25 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by James Clinch (jclinch@venicefl.gov)
2023-11-09 - 1:39:41 PM GMT- IP address: 50.236.154.174
-  Document e-signed by James Clinch (jclinch@venicefl.gov)
Signature Date: 2023-11-09 - 1:40:29 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 50.236.154.174
-  Agreement completed.
2023-11-09 - 1:40:29 PM GMT