



MEMO

City of Venice

Engineering Department

To: Edward Lavalley, City Manager

From: Kathleen Weeden, PE, City Engineer

Date: 10/17/2016

Subject: **City Council Agenda – 10/25/2016**
Legacy Park Funding Agreement – Amendment #2
Park Impact Fees Playground and Demonstration Garden

Background:

On December 19, 2008 the city purchased the 10-acre former Cemex site at 395 East Venice Avenue to construct Legacy Park. The project site was an abandoned cement plant and development is intended to revitalize a blighted area and provide complimentary amenities to the Venetian Waterway Park, Legacy Trail and the historic Venice Train Depot which is a transit hub. In accordance with the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Management Plan, Phase I construction has been completed and includes a multi-use trail, canoe/kayak launch, kayak/canoe washing station, restroom, picnic shelters, observation platform, parking areas, stormwater facility, landscaping and shoreline restoration for Hatchett Creek. The Management Plan was approved by City Council, Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners and the Florida Communities Trust. The approved Management Plan was amended to amend the band shell in 2015 based on City Council action. The remaining elements to be constructed are a playground and demonstration garden.

This project is being completed as a joint effort between City of Venice and Sarasota County. Consistent with earlier agreement, the property was purchased by the City with assistance from Florida Communities Trust. The park amenities and restoration of Hatchett Creek have been completed with a combination of Sarasota County funds, Park Impact Fees, Recreation Program Grant, Land and Water Conservation Grant, West Coast Inland Navigation District Grant and Coastal Management Initiative Grant.

The attached funding agreement will provide an additional \$85,000 in Park Impact Fees to supplement the \$50,000 FRDAP Grant that has been awarded to the City to complete the covered, train-themed playground and demonstration garden. Assistance in the design of the demonstration garden has been provided by the Venice Area Garden Club and the installation of the plant material is scheduled to be completed by volunteers during the Make a Difference Day activities on October 15, 2016. The Sarasota County BOCC has the funding agreement amendment scheduled for consideration at the November 8, 2016 meeting that will be held in South County at the R.L. Anderson Building.

Requested Action: Motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the Second Amendment to Locally Funded Agreement for the Use of Park Impact Fees between Sarasota County, Florida and the City of Venice for Construction of the Playground and Demonstration Garden at Legacy Park in the amount of \$85,000.

City Attorney Review: Reviewed and Approved.

Risk Management: Reviewed and Approved.

Funds Availability: No city funds are requested at this time. Funding for construction will be provided by Park Impact Fees in accordance with the attached Locally Funded Agreement.