

Legislation Text

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

TITLE:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) FOR THE 2017 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) FOR THE WINSTON PARK NATURE CENTER GREENWAY AND TRAIL AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO THE APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE FUNDING.

BACKGROUND:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides matching grant funds through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for the development of recreational trails, trailheads, and trailside facilities. The City previously received this grant for the Sabal Pines Greenway Trail, which was completed in 2014.

The Program provides grant funding up to \$200,000 for non-motorized trails. The maximum grant award can account for 80% of the total project costs; however, projects receive more points with a higher matching ratio. For example, an application with an 80:20 matching ratio only receives one point, a 60:40 matching ratio receives three points, and a 50:50 matching ratio receives five points. The City is applying for a 50:50 matching ratio, and \$100,000 is currently programmed with City funding in the CIP for this project.

DISCUSSION:

The City is committed to providing adequate recreational opportunities for its residents and expanding, upgrading, and maintaining infrastructure. As part of these strategic initiatives, the City is desirous of expanding the trail system within Winston Park Nature Center. The proposed trail would improve accessibility and safety for residents by connecting Winston Park Nature Trail to the Hilton Road Greenway Trail. The proposed trail will consist of approximately 1,650 linear feet of Flexi-pave pathway material, beginning at the Hilton Road Greenway Trail, running through the nature preserve and connecting to the existing section of the Winston Park Nature Trail. The trail project will also include a monument sign, pergola, and multiple benches. The preliminary cost estimate for the project is \$200,000. The grant request will be for \$100,000 with the City providing a \$100,000 match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

REVENUES: \$100,000

EXPENDITURES:

\$200,000

BUDGETED? Yes

NOTES: This project is budgeted in the Parks Improvement Fund, CIP 3151572-6864, titled Winston Park Preserve and Boardwalk.