



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 24-00008**

**Agenda Date: 1/23/2024**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Request Approval of Joint Wild Spaces Public Places and Infrastructure Projects with the City of Waldo**

**Presenter:**

Kim Worley – Waldo City Manager

Gina Peebles – Assistant County Manager – Chief of Staff

**Description:**

Request Approval of Joint Wild Spaces Public Places and Infrastructure Projects with the City of Waldo

**Recommended Action:**

Pursuant to Ordinance 2022-08, approve all 6 Surtax Grant Applications submitted by the City of Waldo, and authorize the Alachua County Chair and Clerk to execute a grant agreement for each application using the form grant agreement attached to this agenda item.

**Prior Board Motions:**

August 22, 2023 - Hear presentation and approve the Joint Infrastructure Surtax Projects Application form as proposed.

May 23, 2023 – Approve equal distribution between all nine cities (\$333,333 for Wild Spaces Public Places and \$333,333 for Infrastructure). Staff is to develop a standard application form to detail how the grant provides both countywide significance as laid out in the statute, and local significance for their respective municipality and that the form be reviewed by the Oversight Board

**Fiscal Note:**

BoCC match will not exceed the City of Waldo's allocated \$333,333 in joint Wild Spaces Public Places partnership project funding and \$333,333 in joint Infrastructure partnership project funding.

As part of the 2016 half-cent Wild Space Public Places surtax, \$300,000 was awarded to Waldo for a canal dock or improvements to Sid Martin Park. An amendment in May 2019 added Waldo City Square (formerly Waldo Community School) and postponed the project start date to no later than 10/1/2025, but maintained the required completion date of December 1, 2030. These funds remain encumbered, but have not yet been requested by the city for reimbursement.

**Strategic Guide:**

Infrastructure

**Background:**

The City of Waldo has submitted six (6) applications to the County for award of surtax grant funding pursuant to the County’s Non-Recurring Municipal Partnership Program established by Ordinance 2022-08. The grant program provides up to \$333,333 in WSPP Grant Funding and up to \$333,333 in Other Infrastructure Grant funding to each municipality within Alachua County. The program requires matching funds from the municipality and is paid on a cost reimbursement basis. In order to award grant funding under this program, the Board must determine the following: (1) the project is eligible to use surtax funding; and (2) that the project has “countywide significance.”

Of the 6 applications submitted by Waldo, 3 applications seek grant funding for WSPP Uses and 3 applications seek grant funding for Other Infrastructure Uses.

Three (3) Applications for WSPP Uses:

1. **Waldo Community Center:** The project is located at 13550 NE 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Waldo, Florida. WSPP grant funding is requested to renovate: bathrooms, kitchen, doors, walkways, roof/ceiling, playground area, HVAC, plumbing, wiring, possibly raise the roof, storage areas, and the on-site storage building. The estimated project cost is \$350,000 and the City is requesting \$175,000 in grant funding from the County for this project.
2. **Veteran’s Park Downtown:** The project is located at 15705 NE Waldo Road, Waldo, Florida. WSPP grant funding is requested to renovate: stage/stairs at the Caboose, possibly renovate the sound system, and upgrade the park playground with new equipment as funds allow. The estimated project cost is \$250,000 and the City is requesting \$125,000 in grant funding from the County for this project.
3. **Sid Martin Park:** The project is located at 15287 NE 142<sup>nd</sup> Street, Waldo, Florida. The park includes ball fields and a concession stand. WSPP grant funding is requested to purchase new playground equipment and, if sufficient funding is available, new fencing and field repairs. The estimated project cost is \$70,000 and the City is requesting \$33,333 in grant funding from the County for this project.

Three (3) Applications for Other Infrastructure Uses:

1. **Fire Suppression System for the Constellation Charter School:** The project is located at 14450 NE 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Waldo, Florida, at Waldo City Square. Other Infrastructure grant funding is requested to install a Fire Sprinkler System in the Noe Wing where the school is located. The estimated project cost is \$150,000 and the City is requesting \$75,000 in grant funding from the County for this project.
2. **Water Tower Well Generator:** Waldo owns and operates a municipal water system, including a potable water well and water tower. Other Infrastructure grant funding is requested to replace the aging generator that is used to pump water from the well and keep the tower filled when there is a loss of power. The estimated project cost is \$200,000 and the City is requesting \$100,000 in grant funding from the County for this project.
3. **New Water Meters:** Waldo owns and operates a municipal water system that supplies potable water to residents and businesses in Waldo and parts of unincorporate Alachua County. Other

Infrastructure grant funding is requested to replace each residential and commercial water meter with an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meter that provides remote collection of water use data in real time on a per unit basis. The new meters will improve billing, leak detection, and water resource management. The meters will be owned by the City and incorporated into its municipal water supply system. The estimated project cost is \$450,000 and the City is requesting \$158,333 in grant funding from the County for this project.