



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 24-00537

Agenda Date: 6/11/2024

Agenda Item Name:

World Masters Update from the Local Organizing Committee and West End License Agreement

Presenter:

Stephen Rodriguez – RADD Sports

Gina Peebles – Assistant County Manager – Chief of Staff

Description:

World Masters Update from the Local Organizing Committee and West End License Agreement

Recommended Action:

- (1) Hear update about the 2025 World Masters Indoor Athletics Championship event.
- (2) Authorize the County Manager to execute a license agreement for the property known as West End with the Alachua County Local Organizing Committee, Inc and to execute any amendments consistent with the use of the property for the stated use, at no cost and contingent on the purchase of West End, and with only authorized improvements permitted by licensee and all improvements left on property following the end of the license term.
- (3) Set aside (not to exceed) \$645,000 from Tourist Development Tax reserves for necessary expenditures related to the property known as West End, as authorized by Florida law, and not covered by the State appropriation for the World Masters event. Any use of these Tourist Development Tax funds would require Board approval.
- (4) Approve the corresponding budget amendment moving Tourist Development Tax funds from reserves to the appropriate accounts.

Prior Board Motions:

May 28, 2024 - Approve Gainesville Sports Commission Amendment for Operating Expenses to Support World Masters and authorize the Chair and Clerk to sign.

September 12, 2023 – World Masters Update.

May 23, 2023 – Approved Chair Letter of Support.

Fiscal Note:

\$1 million from Tourist Development Tax reserves for operations and capital improvements (\$355,000 for World Masters Athletics operations and marketing via the Gainesville Sports Commission leaving an available balance of \$645,000 for necessary expenditures, as allowable by State Statute).

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150.45.4510.552.63.98 - \$645,000

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

The World Masters Indoor Athletics Championship event requires outdoor areas for cross country, javelin, discus, and hammer. The property known as West End intended to be purchased by Alachua County would be ideal for these events. The attached license agreement provides the Alachua County Local Organizing Committee, Inc. with a license to occupy, improve and use the property known as West End, contingent upon the purchase of the property by the County, until the conclusion of the World Masters event in April 2025. In accordance with the terms of the agreement, the licensee is permitted to make improvements to the property. The agreement provides that the improvements will remain at or on the property at the conclusion of the license term and it is anticipated that these improvements will provide a benefit to the County for future public park use.

During the Board's initial World Masters discussion, there was a discussion about allocating up to \$1 million in Tourist Development Tax (TDT) reserves in support of the event. However, no formal motion was made to that effect. At the May 28 Board meeting, \$355,000 was set aside for operational support, leaving \$645,000 available for necessary expenditures. Proposed expenditures of this Tourist Development Tax funding be only as authorized by Florida law and would be brought to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration and approval.