



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 25-00126**

**Agenda Date: 2/25/2025**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**State of Florida Assistance for Drone Replacement Program**

**Presenter:**

Harold Theus, Fire Chief (352) 384-3130

**Description:**

Drone Replacement Program Financial Assistance from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement

**Recommended Action:**

Adopt the Resolution Amending the FY25 Adopted Budget, approve the Budget Amendment (2025-00001174), and authorize an Interfund Loan not to exceed \$75,000.00

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

The Drone Replacement Program Financial Assistant Agreement grant is a reimbursement grant that will require an interfund loan for cash flow purposes for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00. Alachua County has been approved to relinquish three noncompliant drones to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and is eligible for reimbursement not to exceed \$25,000 per compliant drone. Funds are budgeted under 083.54.5480.522-various, project # 3542508. A resolution and budget amendment to recognize the reimbursement and appropriate the funds is necessary to make the purchases.

**Strategic Guide:**

Public Safety

**Background:**

The Florida Legislature amended Section 934.50, Florida Statutes to require governmental entities to only utilize drones meeting the requirements outlined in Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code. This change required governmental agencies who use drones for various purposes to cease the use of any drone that is not in compliance with the Rule.

During the 2023 Legislative Session, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement appropriated approximately \$25 million in nonrecurring funds to implement the Drone Replacement Grant Program. This grant provides funding for the recipient to replace drones that are not in compliance with Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code.

The agreement with the State of Florida was approved by the Manager. Alachua County is eligible to replace up to three (3) noncompliant drones and receive reimbursement of up to \$25,000.00 per drone for a total maximum reimbursement of \$75,000.00. A resolution and budget amendment to recognize the reimbursement and appropriate the funds is necessary to make the purchases.