



**THE CITY OF KEY WEST**  
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TO:** Greg Veliz, City Manager

**FROM:** Johnnie Yongue, P.E. Project Manager

**CC:** Kelly Crowe, P.E. City Engineer  
Steve McAlearney, Engineering Director

**DATE:** September 3, 2019

**SUBJECT:** **Resolution Supporting FDOT Beautification Grant Application**

### **ACTION STATEMENT**

Approve a resolution supporting a beautification grant application funded by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT); authorizing staff to apply for the grant; authorizing City Manager to execute application, agreements, and documents associated with the grant.

### **BACKGROUND**

The current primary vehicle entrance to the City, “The Triangle,” is dilapidated and does not make an adequate first impression. The Triangle is FDOT right-of-way (ROW), and as such FDOT is responsible for landscaping and maintenance. Currently, however, City Community Services provides twice-monthly maintenance of the area.

FDOT offers annual grant funding to beautify state ROW in exchange for maintenance agreements to be performed by the applying local entity. In exchange for funding new plantings and irrigation, the City would assume responsibility to maintain the improvements within the project limits.

Florida Administrative Code 14-40.020 Section 3 paragraph “e” requires that an applicant’s governing body pass a resolution approving the grant application and authorizing the individual who signs the application to execute agreements and documents associated with the grant.

FDOT estimates that a maximum of \$105,306 is available per grant award this cycle. Matching

funds are not required; however, matching funds are required for costs that are deemed ineligible by the terms of the grant. Examples of ineligible costs include signage, lighting and other fixed improvements unrelated to landscaping. Staff anticipates there will be improvements associated with the project that will require matching funds to account for any ineligible costs.

### **PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION**

The Triangle is acknowledged as the entrance to Key West and the existing landscape improvements within the Triangle are in need of aesthetic improvement. Beautification of the Triangle will provide a distinct and positive impression on those who enter the city limits.

This grant application aligns with the City Strategic Plan, Infrastructure Goal #1, “*Coordinate with County, State, and FDOT to provide ongoing improvements, maintenance.*”

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1: The Commission authorizes staff to apply for the grant to improve the Triangle. The City would agree to accept maintenance responsibility for the improvements within the project limits.

Option 2: The City does not apply for the grant and continues working with FDOT and its contractors to improve the appearance of the State ROW. FDOT retains maintenance responsibility for the area.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Staff will make a request for matching funds in the FY 20/21 budget to account for any costs that are not covered by the grant funding. Long term maintenance obligations to the City, should grant be approved, are estimated to be roughly two man-days per month.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

City staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing staff to apply for the FDOT Beautification Grant; authorization to the City Manager to execute the Grant application, agreements, and documents associated with the grant.