




MEMORANDUM

Date: June 6, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Albert P. Childress
City Manager 

From: Carolyn Sheldon
Senior Grants Administrator

Subject: **24-5800 Approving Florida Department of Commerce (Commerce) grant agreement**

Introduction

The City Manager's Office requests the approval of the attached "Florida Defense Infrastructure Grant Agreement" Number S0230 with the State of Florida Department of Commerce (Commerce) for the construction of the Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub in the amount of \$500,000.00 State / \$150,000.00 City Match (\$650,000.00 Total).

Background

The Florida Defense Infrastructure Grant Program was established by Section 288.980(5) of the Florida Statutes to support local infrastructure projects deemed to have a positive impact on the military value of installations within the state, which benefit both the local community and the military installations. Commerce is authorized to award grants on a competitive basis.

The City of Key West (City), in coordination with the Bahama Village Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and Naval Air Station Key West, submitted an application in April 2023 requesting \$500,000 of DIG funding to construct the Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub. The Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub project is designed to provide a well used blue skies community center that can act as a resilient critical facility during a disaster event. The approach for this project is to retrofit the existing Bahama Village Community Center to meet the standards of a Resilience Hub, which includes reinforcing the building structure, and emergency showers..

During sunny day weather, the Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub will continue to host its long running music program and after school tutoring for youth, and capable of expanding to offer an

adult education program, nutrition education programs,, and small business incubator program. The community center will include a learning center, an activity area for senior citizens, a 2,600sf main hall, and a kitchen that meets ADA requirements.

The site has long been recognized by the immediate local community as a distribution point for disaster relief and services.. The Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub project will benefit both the Naval Air Station Key West and the surrounding community by providing a critical facility during a disaster event. The Resilience Hub will serve as a central location for residents to gather and receive critical services, such as food, water, and medical assistance. This will relieve the burden on local emergency services and allow for a more coordinated response.

The Resilience Hub will also benefit Naval Air Station Key West by providing a nearby facility for military personnel and their families to seek shelter and receive aid during a disaster event. The improved stormwater management system will help prevent flooding and reduce the potential for damage to the installation's adjacent infrastructure.

An award was announced by the Governor in June 2023. The City of Key West is one of six applicants awarded the maximum DIG funding amount of \$500,000.00.

Procurement

The City will receive up to a maximum reimbursement amount of \$500,000.00 of State funding to construct the Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub. Grant revenue will be budgeted in account 6010000 3349000 / BV55021701. Expenses will be budgeted in account 6015502 5556200 / BV55021701.

Matching funds of \$150,000.00 are required. The match is a cash match from the Frederick Douglass Community Center, Project BV55021701, currently in construction.

Recommendation

The City Manager's Office recommends the City Commission approve the attached "Florida Defense Infrastructure Grant Agreement" Number S0230 with the State of Florida Department of Commerce (Commerce) for the construction of the Bahama Village Community Center Resilience Hub.