



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041-1409 (305) 809-3700

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: James K. Scholl, City Manager
Sarah Spurlock, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Carolyn Sheldon, Senior Grants Administrator

DATE: September 9, 2014

RE: **Approval of the attached University of Southern Mississippi Agreement Number USM-GR04114-R/MG/CSP-35 between the University of Southern Mississippi (Southern Miss) and the City of Key West for a Sea Grant in an amount not to exceed \$33,750.00 to assist with adaptation amendments to the City's Land Development Regulations and other Ordinances. Authorizing any necessary budget amendments or transfers to accept the funding. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement.**

ACTION STATEMENT:

This resolution will approve the attached University of Southern Mississippi Agreement Number USM-GR04114-R/MG/CSP-35 between the University of Southern Mississippi (Southern Miss) and the City of Key West for a Sea Grant in an amount not to exceed \$33,750.00 to assist with adaptation amendments to the City's Land Development Regulations and other Ordinances. In addition, this resolution will authorize any necessary budget amendments or transfers to accept the funding and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

BACKGROUND:

This grant is a Federal grant funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Last year, the NOAA Gulf of Mexico Coastal Storms Program in collaboration with the Gulf of Mexico Sea Grant Programs and the Gulf of Mexico Climate Community of Practice were seeking coastal communities to participate in one-year climate adaptation projects with the goal of assisting communities located in coastal Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana or Texas in their efforts to plan for a sea level rise and climate change. This particular grant is through

Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.

MEMORANDUM

the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC) administered by the University of Southern Mississippi. Four climate adaptation projects were funded out of 10 applicants, at a maximum of \$33,750.00 each. There are no matching requirements for this funding. The City of Key West responded to MASGC's request for community projects with an application titled "Taking the Plunge: Addressing Climate Change Adaptation in Key West Ordinances and Hazard Mitigation." This application is included with the contract documents.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION:

The City of Key West sits an average of 4.7" above sea level. Approximately 80% of the City is a Special Flood Hazard Area and already has 11 intersections that inundate monthly during full moon high tides. Stormwater further compounds the problems because the island is surrounded by the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and derives much of its tourism income from the health of our marine waters. With a recently updated Comprehensive Plan (May 2013) that includes 56 items of climate change mitigation and adaptation, the City is ready to translate those goals and objectives into actual on-the-ground policy via a super-overhaul of its ordinances. The Sea Grant will assist with the cost of hiring a Land Development Regulations (LDR) consultant team with Adaptation specialists so that the overhaul process can be completed.

OPTIONS / ADVANTAGES / DISADVANTAGES:

1. The City Commission can approve the acceptance of the attached University of Southern Mississippi Agreement Number USM-GR04114-R/MG/CSP-35 between the University of Southern Mississippi (Southern Miss) and the City of Key West for a Sea Grant in an amount not to exceed \$33,750.00 to assist with adaptation amendments to the City's Land Development Regulations and other Ordinances. This will allow the City to partially fund the Land Development Regulations (LDR) consultant team to complete the ordinance overhaul process.
2. The City Commission can reject the acceptance of the Sea Grant funding. If the City Commission chooses to reject the funding, the City would receive no grant funding to offset the cost of hiring a Land Development Regulations (LDR) consultant team to complete the ordinance overhaul process.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures for the Land Development Regulations consultant are in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget, Account 001-1501-515.31-00. University of Southern Mississippi Sea Grant funding of \$33,750.00 is budgeted in FY 2015 grant revenue Account 001-0000-331.90-00.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Commission select Option 1, approving the acceptance of the University of Southern Mississippi Agreement Number USM-GR04114-R/MG/CSP-35 for a Sea Grant in an amount not to exceed \$33,750.00.