

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date:
April 15, 2025

Agenda Item Number: G-1

Action Required:
No

Department:
General Manager

Sponsor:
Peter Rosasco

Subject:
FKWQIP Update

Summary:
Mr. Rosasco will discuss FKWQIP funding.

Reviewed / Approved

Financial Impact

Attachments

Operations: _____
Administration: _____
Finance: _____
District Counsel: _____
District Clerk: _____
Engineering: _____

\$

Funding Source:
N/A

Budgeted:
N/A

1. FKWQIP FY25 Work Plan Letter

Approved By: 
General Manager

Date: 04/10/2025



City of Marathon



*Key Largo Wastewater
Treatment District*



*Islamorada
Village of Islands*

Ms. Robyn Colosimo, P.E.
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army – Civil Works
U.S. Department of the Army
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310-0108

Dear Acting Assistant Secretary Colosimo:

On behalf of the Village of Islamorada, City of Marathon, and Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District, we write to request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provide \$6,000,000 in the FY 2025 Work Plan for the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvement Program (FKWQIP) to continue work on the replacement of sewage treatment systems with central sewer collection and wastewater treatment systems.

This ongoing project is benefitting both the 80,000 residents who make the Keys their year-round home and the millions who visit annually to experience South Florida and the National Marine Sanctuary ecosystem. Moreover, these projects are being constructed in a sustainable, cost-efficient, and transparent manner. The three local sponsors have demonstrated the ability to obligate funds within the calendar year and to complete separable elements with those allocated funds.

The communities of the Florida Keys are required to meet stringent wastewater, stormwater management, and canal restoration regulations as well as comply with water quality and environmental protection standards. This in turn is helping to protect and restore the near shore waters of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Established in 1990, the Sanctuary is a flag-ship marine space in the federal sanctuary program and is the world's third largest coral reef system protecting the only living barrier coral reef in the continental United States. Mitigating the effects of land-based pollutants, primarily wastewater discharge and storm water runoff, will help ensure this national treasure in South Florida is protected for years to come.

To meet environmental protections for the Sanctuary and coastal areas predominately owned by Federal and State governments, Florida Keys residents will pay for water treatment standards that are four times more stringent than most other locations in the nation. Consequently, FKWQIP funding is important in offsetting local costs such as sea-level rise that threaten public infrastructure including Keys sewers.

We appreciate consideration of our request. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact our federal government affairs consultants: Rick Marks, 703-963-1852, Marathon; Jim Davenport, Village of Islamorada, 703-597-2009; and Fred Hicks, Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District, 703-626-5384.

Sincerely,



George Garrett
City Manager
City of Marathon



Sheila Denoncourt
Interim Village Manager
Village of Islamorada



Peter Rosasco
General Manager
Key Largo Wastewater
Treatment District