

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Fay Baird, Senior Hydrologist, Office of Water Resources

THRU: Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Water and Land Resources

DATE: July 31, 2019

RE: Authorization to Enter into an Interagency Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey, for Streamgaging Services for Fiscal Year 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into an Interagency Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for an amount not to exceed \$828,310 for streamgaging services.

BACKGROUND

The proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Interagency Joint Funding Agreement (JFA) with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Florida District is for a total amount of \$828,310 with the District providing \$602,941 and the USGS contributing \$225,369. For FY 2019, the total JFA amount was \$815,840 and the District's share was \$577,271. The increase is a result of a 2% federal cost of living adjustment, and the equipment, installation, and maintenance of 1 new temperature and conductivity station in support of the Minimum Flow and Minimum Water Level (MFL) program.

As part of the District's funding provision, Nestlé Waters North America and Packaging Corporation of America will provide \$70,000 and \$16,480, respectively, toward Withlacoochee River monitoring in this JFA. The USGS' National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) also will cover an additional \$180,300 of the surfacewater gaging costs while the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) is continuing to fund \$79,500 of USGS monitoring on the New and Ichetucknee rivers and Troy Spring.

The USGS provides maintenance of gages and sensors to USGS standards, quality assurance and archiving, availability of real-time and long-term data and statistics, and real-time satellite delivery of data to the public, the District, and the National Weather Service's Southeast River Forecast Center using robust methods. This long-term program provides essential information for floodplain mapping, MFL, flood warnings and forecasts through the National Weather Service, groundwater modeling and drought monitoring. Data obtained through this program are available in real-time to the public via the USGS' national web page, the District's River Levels web page, and the District's river level phone system.

Table 1 provides a list of monitoring stations and a breakdown of the proposed cooperative budget.