

EXHIBIT H

PROJECT: Caloosahatchee River Crossing Project – Construction of Pipeline

2019 State Funding Request: \$15,000,000

Summary: The City SUPPORTS funding to construct a Reclaimed Water Pipeline across the Caloosahatchee River that will allow the City of Ft. Myers to reduce harmful nutrient (i.e. nitrogen, phosphorus, etc.) discharges to the Caloosahatchee River and provide beneficial reclaimed water resources to the City of Cape Coral. The City of Fort Myers and the City of Cape Coral recently approved a 30-year Agreement to construct the necessary capital improvements and sell Cape Coral 6-12 million gallons per day (MGD) of reclaimed water. The City of Fort Myers South Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility's current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit allows the City to discharge up to 12.0 MGD per day of wastewater effluent to the Caloosahatchee River. The Reclaimed Water River Crossing Project (the Project) is approximately 8,000 feet long and is anticipated to be 24 to 30 inches in diameter suitable for a peak flow of up to 12 million gallons per day (MGD). The pipeline may be constructed under the river by utilizing horizontal direction drilling (HDD) technology, open cut or attachment to the Veterans Blvd Bridge.

Purpose of Request for Local Funding: Regionally, we should all be working together to identify opportunities to improve water quality east, west, south and the north of Lake Okeechobee. Expediting local projects will increase the number of opportunities for long-term water quantity and water quality solutions. On-going coordinated actions moving us towards improved water quality are happening frequently and at all levels across the state. The City's position and ability to take the lead in the use and development of projects that support the regions goals is a priority for our community and we hope one supported by our Legislative Delegation and other partnering agencies.

Background: The City of Cape Coral has a world class reclaimed water system. The system operates with water from two water reclamation facilities and five canal pump stations. These limited water sources have been severely impacted by the recurring dry season drought conditions. The water resources the City utilizes for both drinking water and reclaimed water is considered alternative water supply. The City uses poor quality brackish water and treats it with reverse osmosis plants. Cape Coral utilizes fresh water canals and treated wastewater for the separate dual piped irrigation system. The reclaimed water system includes hundreds of fire hydrants and commercial fire sprinkler systems that rely on the reclaimed water system to be continuously pressurized. The Project will provide additional reclaimed water to supplement our current reclaimed water resources and reduces the impact of being heavily reliant on the freshwater canal system during the dry season.

The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP), believes funding for the Cities shared reclaimed water main project will benefit the two municipalities through cost savings, will improve the water quality of the Caloosahatchee River and Charlotte Harbor estuary and will have a positive impact on the downstream communities of Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel and Bonita Springs. The CHNEP is a partnership program, created by Section 320 of the Clean Water Act, to protect and preserve the Charlotte Harbor estuary, recognized as an estuary of national significance and one of the most productive estuaries in Florida. Long term management, preservation and restoration activities within the CHNEP are guided by their Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) 2008, developed and implemented by their partners. The CCMP lists four priority problems, accompanied by more specific quantifiable objectives and priority actions relating to improving water quality, hydrology, fish and wildlife habitat, and stewardship throughout the Charlotte Harbor watershed.

Funding Request: The local funding request of \$15,000,000 is for the construction of a pipeline that will run from the east side of the Caloosahatchee River parallel with the Mid-Point Bridge (Veterans/Colonial Blvd) to the west side of the River and connect to the City of Cape Coral's Everest Water Reclamation Facility. The City can provide an equal match for the construction of this project that must be completed by January 15, 2023 in accordance with the cities 2018 Interlocal Agreement.