



# City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

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(727) 938-3711

## OFFICE OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

June 13, 2017

Honorable Governor Rick Scott  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

Please accept this letter and corresponding documents as supplementary to the information sent previously regarding the City of Tarpon Springs' State funding request for the Anclote Federal Channel Dredge Project.

While the funding was vetoed, we were pleased to see the creation of the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund within DEO. As a public infrastructure project, the Anclote Federal Channel Dredge project has a significant economic impact to the region and we look forward to submitting this project for funding.

Please provide us with information on the process and how the City may apply for funding through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. We appreciate all that you are doing in "Fighting for Florida's Future."

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Alahouzos".

Chris Alahouzos  
Mayor  
City of Tarpon Springs

Enc.: Memo - Anclote Federal Channel Eligibility for Florida Job Growth Grant Fund  
Memo - Updated Anclote Dredge Project Costs for Spoils Site Lease and Site Preparation



## Project Administration Department

324 East Pine Street  
Tarpon Springs FL 34689  
(727) 942-5638

### Memorandum

**Date:** June 13, 2017  
**To:** Mark LeCouris, City Manager  
**From:** Bob Robertson, P.E., Project Administration Department Director  
Karen Lemmons, Economic Development Manager  
**Subject:** Anclote Federal Channel Dredge Eligibility for Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

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**Purpose:**

We recommend pursuing a request for \$676,046 of State funding for the subject project through the newly created Florida Job Growth Grant Fund.

**Background:**

The Anclote Federal Channel Dredge project occurs roughly every 20 years. Its purpose is to maintain access through the Anclote Federal Channel in northern Pinellas County and the City of Tarpon Springs. The dredging operation will be funded through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), but the local sponsor (the City of Tarpon Springs) must provide a site for treatment and storage of the dredge spoils material/sediments (often referred to as the "spoils site"). In addition, Pinellas County is contributing funding for this project for the preliminary engineering, design, and permitting.

Recently Governor Scott vetoed a City request of \$920,973 funding request from the State for the project because it "did not provide a clear return for the investment." We believe that the City's Economic Impact Study that was provided as part of our funding request package demonstrates a clear return for the investment. Note that City staff has revised and reduced the funding amount from \$920,973 to \$670,046 as detailed in the attached memorandum.

We understand that the State budgeting process is now complete with no reasonable expectation for amendment to include funding for any of the vetoed projects; and we recommend pursuit of project funding through the newly created Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. We are confident that this project meets several of the Governor's "Fighting for Florida's Future" budget priorities as well as the eligibility requirements for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The project provides a clear return for the State's investment as described below:

### **Fighting for Florida Jobs**

The Anclote Federal Channel supports more than 50 marine-related businesses and more than 100 tourism-related businesses. These businesses represent nearly 2,500 primary employment jobs which equates to 21% of the workforce in the City.

### **Fighting to Improve Seaports and Trade**

The Anclote Federal Channel serves in a regional public safety and disaster preparation response capacity and provides a “harbor of safe refuge” for vessels in danger. The Anclote supports more than \$252 million annually in economic activity in the marine commerce, shipping, and tourism related industries. With regard to the commercial fishing trade, Tarpon Springs accounts for 56% of the value of all commercial fish landed in Pinellas County.

### **Supports Public Infrastructure Improvements**

The Anclote Federal Channel dredge project would improve recreational and commercial boat traffic through the Anclote Federal Channel by restoring the safe depths required for Federal Channel access. The Federal Channel supports commercial fishing, commercial boat building and repair, tourism, recreational boating, marinas and more. The shoaling of the Federal Channel has caused hardship to these industries that can be alleviated with a restored, fully navigable waterway.

For these reasons, the City is seeking \$676,046 from the state for lease of a property for dredge spoils (sediment) storage and treatment. This \$676,046 funding request would leverage approximately \$4 million from the Federal Government upon completion of design and permitting. **Without a secured spoils site, the dredging of the Anclote Federal Channel will not be possible.**



# Project Administration Department

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Tarpon Springs FL 34689  
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## Memorandum

**Date:** June 8, 2017  
**To:** Mark LeCouris, City Manager  
**From:** Bob Robertson, P.E., Project Administration Department Director  
**Subject:** Updated Anclote Dredge Project Costs for Spoils Site Lease and Site Preparation

The upcoming, proposed maintenance dredge to be performed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) requires the Local Sponsor, the City of Tarpon Springs, to provide a site and associated construction of on-site infrastructure (i.e. site prep) that would be suitable for dewatering and storage of dredge spoils materials (sediments).

In December of 2016, the City had identified three potential site locations to be leased that would be suitable for this purpose. A package was prepared and submitted through State Representative Christopher Sprowls' office on behalf of the City. This package requested funding for the lease and associated site-prep work and included a detailed Economic Impact Study that was funded by the City. The request included lease and site prep costs for the highest priced option (\$920,973) since no final agreement had been reached with either of the three property owners at the time. Since that time, the City was able to reach an agreement with the lowest-priced option and has been leasing the property using its own funds since mid-February 2017.

With all of the above considerations, the City's request for State Funding can be reduced from \$920,973 to \$676,046 as described below and in the attached:

<i>Item Description</i>	<b>Monthly Cost</b>	<b>Duration (months)</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Property Lease (40 total months)	\$8,116.55	40	\$324,662
Site Preparation Construction (See Attachment 1 for Details)	n/a	n/a	\$397,919
Property Lease (City-Funded: Partial Feb. 2017 through July 2017)	\$8,116.55	5.7	(\$46,534)
<b>Total Revised Spoils Site Cost (Lease and Site-Prep)</b>			<b>\$676,046</b>

**Attachment 1**

**Tarpon Springs Anclote River Dredge Project - Spoils Site Preparation Construction Cost Estimate**

<i>Construction Cost Items &amp; Descriptions</i>	<i>No. Units</i>	<i>Units of Measure</i>	<i>Cost Per Unit</i>	<i>Sub-Totals</i>
<b>Site clearing &amp; grubbing</b>	3.43	acre	\$7,251	\$24,872
<b>Rough grading</b>	3.43	acre	\$12,750	\$43,733
<b>Silt fence around disturbed area</b>	3,456	linear foot	\$2.00	\$6,912
<b>Gravel Road Construction</b>				
8" gravel subgrade	200	sq. yard	\$12.22	\$2,444
Geotextile liner	200	sq. yard	\$1.64	\$328
<b>CDF Dike Construction</b>				
Strip soil and stockpile	14,815	cubic yard	\$1.02	\$15,111
Spread fill	14,815	cubic yard	\$2.75	\$40,741
Compaction w/ 6" lift , 2 passes vib roller	14,815	cubic yard	\$0.47	\$6,963
<b>Install groundwater monitoring wells</b>	2	each	\$1,750	\$3,500
<b>Weirs</b>	3	each	\$45,000	\$135,000
<b>Stabilization at site/river discharge</b>	1	lump sum	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b>Site restoration</b>	3.43	acres	\$10,000	\$34,300
<b>Remove pavement protection</b>	200	sq. yard	\$6.00	\$1,200
<b>Disposal of site construction material</b>	400	cubic yard	\$20.00	\$8,000
<b>Site regrading</b>	13.98	acre	\$250.00	\$3,495
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$331,599</b>
<b>Contingency (20%)</b>				<b>\$66,320</b>
<b>Spoils Site Preparation (Construction) Total</b>				<b>\$397,919</b>