



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

New Business - Miscellaneous

F.1.

9/5/2023

Subject:

Board Discussion and Direction to Staff RE: Economic Development Commission Grant Funding

Fiscal Impact:

Reduce General Government Grant Line-item and Allocate to Lifeguard Services.

Dept/Office:

District 3 Commission Office

Requested Action:

It is requested that the Board 1) approve a reduction in grant funding for the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (EDC) by 20%, or \$280,010, 2) direct staff to use these funds toward lifeguard services on beaches both within unincorporated Brevard and within city limits for FY2023-24, and 3) provide notice to the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast of the reduction in grant funding.

Summary Explanation and Background:

In Section 3 (d) of the grant agreement between Brevard County and the EDC, it states that the EDC should focus on, "working with elected officials" to "develop a competitive business environment in the county." The District 3 office ran an e-mail search through IT and found that there were only six instances in which the EDC contacted the office, the most recent of which was on May 7, 2019. To our knowledge we have not received any phone calls or letters with meeting requests.

Since the EDC does not communicate with District 3, the District 3 Commission Office requests that the Board reduce the grant funding for the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast by 20%, or \$280,010, and direct staff to use those dollars toward lifeguard services at beaches within both unincorporated Brevard and city limits for FY2023-24.

On May 23, 2023, Brevard County Ocean Rescue presented an assessment to the Board which reported a staggering number of drownings within the past year at Brevard County's unguarded beaches. In an effort to promote the safety of our residents and tourists, maximum resources should be made available for lifeguard services.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:



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September 6, 2023

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Commissioner John Tobia, Commission District 3

RE: Item F.1., Board Discussion and Direction to staff for Economic Development Commission (EDC) Grant Funding

The Board of County Commissioners, in special session on September 5, 2023, approved a reduction in grant funding for the EDC of Florida's Space Coast for FY 2023-24 from \$1,400,050 to \$1,260,450; directed staff to provide written notice to the EDC of this action; and to utilize the \$140,050 for Fire Rescue capital infrastructure at the County Manager's Office's direction, in District 1.

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK


Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

cc: Economic Development Commission
Each Commissioner
County Manager
Finance
Budget

Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions History 2017 - 2023

Calendar Year	Economic Development Tax Abatement Applications for the Board's Consideration	Economic Development Tax Abatement Ordinances Approved by the Board	Approved Jobs	Economic Development Tax Abatement Rescinded by the Board	Rescinded Jobs
2023	1) Rogue Valley Microdevices (Agenda Date: 01/24/2023) 2) L3Harris Technologies, Inc. - Project LEO (Agenda Date: 08/08/2023) 2) L3Harris Technologies Inc. - Project SAMT (Agenda Date: 08/08/2023)			Midwest Dental Arts, Inc. Pending Board Action on 09/12/2023	
2022					
2021	1) Dark Storm Industries, LLC (Agenda Date: 04/20/2021) 2) National Service Sources d/b/a USSI Global (Agenda Date: 12/21/2021)	1) Dark Storm Industries, LLC (Ordinance 2021-10) 2) National Service Sources d/b/a USSI Global (Ordinance 2021-28)	1) 50 2) 21		
2020	1) Roswell U.S., LLC d/b/a Roswell Marine (Agenda Date: 12/22/2020)	1) Roswell U.S., LLC d/b/a Roswell Marine (Ordinance 2020-26)	1) 21	1) Diamondback CNC, LLC (Ordinance 2020-09) 2) East Coast Paper Stock, Inc. (Ordinance 2020-09) 3) Merritt Island Board Works, Inc (Project Transom) (Ordinance 2020-09)	1) 35 2) 30 3) 380
2019	1) BK Technologies, Inc. (Agenda Date: 05/07/2019)	1) BK Technologies, Inc. (Ordinance 2019-10)	1) 35	1) GeNO, LLC (Ordinance 2019-17) 2) Project Taylor (GeNO, LLC) (Ordinance 2019-17) 3) MC Assembly (Ordinance 2019-17)	1) 12 2) 126 3) 0
2018	1) MG Foods, Inc. (Agenda Date: 04/10/2018) 2) Midwest Dental Arts, Inc. (Project Rainbow) (Agenda Date: 07/24/2018)	1) MG Foods, Inc. (Ordinance 2018-07) 2) Midwest Dental Arts, Inc. (Project Rainbow) (Ordinance 2018-17)	1) 95 2) 30		
			252		583

Fiscal Year	Businesses that Withdrew from the Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program
FY 2020/21	MG Foods, Inc.
FY 2020/21	Rocket Crafters, Inc.
FY 2020/21	Thales USA, Inc.

SINGLE GRANT PROGRAM FOR SPORTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

Grant Review and Awards starting in FY23/24

FUNDING:

- Funding for this program will come from the TDT marketing fund
 - FY 23/24 - \$395,624.65
 - \$138,375 (\$240,000 allocated for sports marketing - \$101,625 awarded in cycle 1) + \$257,249.65 (%7.25 of TDT funding for lifeguards)
 - FY 24/25 - \$475,000
 - \$240,000 (allocation for sports marketing) + \$235,000 (from 7.25% of TDT holdover)

AWARDS:

- Grants are to be awarded for the purpose of:
 - A. Assisting events with marketing
 - B. Defraying County facility expenses
 - C. Both
- Award provided:
 - A. Through the TDO directly marketing for the event at the value of the award amount
 - B. By reimbursement of approved marketing expenses after the event
- Grants could be awarded:
 - A. Every six months
 - B. Once per year
- Recipients determined by a cohesive set of guidelines that do not differentiate event type. The amount of the award should be based on:
 - A. A formula equating event attendance (estimated by cell phone data) and room nights generated to consider the impacts of all events (i.e. 5 out of county attendees = 1 room night)
 - B. Other
- Potential award amounts could be capped at:
 - A. \$25,000
 - B. Other

COMMITTEE:

- Recommendations process options:
 - A. The TDC marketing subcommittee
 - B. A new marketing grant subcommittee (eliminating cultural and sports subcommittees)
 - C. The TDC
 - D. Other