

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 9(A)(4)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** April 21, 2026

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the County Mayor to apply for Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterway Assistance Program grant funding for the purchase of a waterway maintenance vessel for the removal of marine debris, to receive and expend funds from said grant, and to execute a grant agreement; authorizing a disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the County's Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund pursuant to section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County; and certifying acceptance of certain terms and conditions of the FIND Waterway Assistance Program grant

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The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Department of Environmental Resources Management and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Micky Steinberg.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/wm

MDC001

# Memorandum



**Date:** April 21, 2026

**To:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*  
Mayor

**Subject:** Resolution Authorizing the Application for the Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program (FIND WAP) to Purchase a Waterway Maintenance Vessel; and Authorizing a Disbursement from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund as Grant Matching Funds

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## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this item is to seek approval from the Board of County Commissioners of an application for up to \$45,000.00 in grant funding from the Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program (FIND WAP). If awarded, this grant will assist with the purchase of a waterway maintenance vessel for the purpose of implementing and enhancing the County's marine debris removal and disposal program within Biscayne Bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore, as marine debris poses a hazard to navigation, property, public health and safety, and the environment. The timely and cost-effective removal and disposal of marine debris is critical to mitigating such hazards, and the purchase and use of such vessel by the County will allow it to conduct removal of marine debris more quickly and in a more cost-effective manner. The resolution also certifies certain conditions required by the FIND WAP. The waterway maintenance vessel will be used by the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) in the implementation of its marine debris removal and disposal program.

Additionally, this item seeks to authorize a disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) as the required match for the purchase of a waterway maintenance vessel for the purpose of implementing and enhancing the County's marine debris removal and disposal program in Biscayne Bay. The use of the waterway maintenance vessel acquired with such vessel registration fees in the BBEETF shall be limited to those uses that are consistent with section 7-22.1 and section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopt the attached resolution which approves the application for up to \$45,000.00 in grant funding from the Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program (FIND WAP) and authorize a disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) as the required County match.

## **Scope**

This project will benefit the County's tidal waterways and coastal areas, including Biscayne Bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore, within Commission Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 represented by Commissioner Marleine Bastien, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez, Commissioner Raquel Regalado, Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins and Vice Chairman Kionne L. McGhee, respectively.

**Delegation of Authority**

This item will authorize the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to apply to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterway Assistance Program for grant funding in the amount of up to \$45,000.00 which will serve as a 50 percent match of the actual cost of the project on behalf of Miami-Dade County.

Additionally, the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is authorized to receive and expend the grant funds received pursuant to such application, and to execute a grant agreement that is consistent with the application and this resolution, after approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

The vessel to be acquired currently has an estimated purchase price of approximately \$80,000.00, fully equipped and trailered. An estimated total cost of up to \$90,000.00 is being used for the purpose of the FIND WAP grant application to account for potential increases in the purchase price prior to acquisition. If awarded, the FIND WAP will provide fifty (50) percent of the vessel's actual purchase price, or up to \$45,000.00, and the County will be required to provide matching funds in an equal amount (i.e. up to \$45,000.00).

Additionally, this resolution authorizes the disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the BBETF as matching funds. The source of these funds will be annual vessel registration fees collected by the County as authorized by Section 328.66 Florida Statutes. The current available balance of unencumbered annual vessel registration fees in the BBETF as of March 27, 2026 is approximately \$128,399.00.

The cost associated with the maintenance of the vessel after acquisition is estimated to be less than \$10,200.00 per year, which will be paid from DERM's operating budget.

**Track Record/Monitor**

Pamela Sweeney, Chief of DERM's Water Resources Coordination Division, will monitor activities related to management of the grant and the expenditure of the requested funds.

**Background**

DERM has a successful and on-going program that removes marine debris from the County's tidal waterways, including but not limited to Biscayne Bay and its foreshore. The marine debris targeted by this program includes derelict vessels, lost and abandoned fishing gear, illegal structures, and miscellaneous other deleterious materials both large and small. Depending on the type, size, and location of the debris, this work is conducted by County vendors, DERM staff, volunteers, individuals performing court-mandated community service, or a combination of these.

In furtherance of this program, DERM seeks to acquire a dedicated workboat that is rugged and has a shallow draft, wide beam and plenty of deck space, characteristics that will enhance DERM's ability to directly access, transport, and remove larger types and quantities of marine debris, particularly from shallow water areas. Vessels currently possessed by DERM are not intended for, or especially well-suited to, performing such tasks. Acquiring

the desired vessel is expected to result in marine debris removal and disposal by DERM that is more timely, efficient, cost-effective, and far reaching.

The use of annual vessel registration fees deposited into the BBEETF for this purpose is consistent with Section 7-22.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County in that the vessel will be used exclusively for activities involving fisheries and habitat enhancement and maintenance, and other waterway maintenance, regulation, and enhancement. Approval of the disbursement for this purpose is also consistent with Section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, which allows BBEETF funds to be used for the restoration and enhancement of Biscayne Bay and its foreshore.

The County's application for this particular Waterway Assistance Program grant from FIND is required to be accompanied by a resolution of this Board, and pursuant to Florida Administrative Code Rule 66B-2.006, such County resolution is required to follow a particular form and include certain required language and County certifications, all of which are included herein as follows:

1. The County will accept the terms and conditions set forth in FIND Rule 66B-2 of the Florida Administrative Code and which will be a part of the Project Agreement for any assistance awarded under the proposal included in the County's grant application.
2. The County is in complete accord with such proposal and will carry out the Program in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto unless prior approval for any change has been received from FIND.
3. The County has the ability and intention to finance its share of the cost of the project, and the project will be operated and maintained at the expense of the County for public use.
4. The County will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, or national origin in the use of any property or facility acquired or developed pursuant to this proposal, and the County shall comply with the terms and intent of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L.88-352(1964) and design and construct all such facilities to comply fully with statutes relating to accessibility by persons with disabilities as well as other federal, state and local laws, rules and requirements.
5. The County will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed project to substantiate claims for reimbursement.
6. The County will make available to FIND, if requested, a post-audit of expenses incurred on the project prior to, or in conjunction with, a request for the final 10 percent of the funding agreed to by FIND.

In accordance with Section 24-40(4) of the Code, I have received and considered the attached recommendation of the DERM Director for the disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the BBEETF.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Coley  
Chief Utilities and Regulatory Services Officer

# Memorandum



**Date:** March 30, 2026

**To:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor

**From:** Loren Parra, Director and Chief Resilience Officer  
Department of Environmental Resources Management

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Loren Parra".

**Subject:** Recommendation for the Disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management to Purchase a Waterway Maintenance Vessel for the Purpose of Implementing and Enhancing the County's Marine Debris Removal and Disposal Program within Biscayne Bay

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Pursuant to Section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), I am recommending the disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) to be used for the subject project.

DERM has a successful and on-going program that removes marine debris from the County's tidal waterways, including but not limited to Biscayne Bay and its foreshore. The marine debris targeted by this program includes derelict vessels, lost and abandoned fishing gear, illegal structures, and miscellaneous other deleterious materials both large and small. Depending on the type, size, and location of the debris, this work is conducted by County vendors, DERM staff, volunteers, individuals performing court-mandated community service, or a combination of these.

Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), seeks to purchase a waterway maintenance vessel for the purpose of implementing and enhancing the marine debris removal and disposal program within Biscayne Bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore, as marine debris poses a hazard to navigation, property, public health and safety, and the environment. The timely and cost-effective removal and disposal of marine debris is critical to mitigating such hazards, and the purchase and use of such vessel by the County may allow it to conduct removal of marine debris more quickly and in a more cost-effective matter.

The use of annual vessel registration fees deposited into the BBEETF for this purpose is consistent with Section 7-22.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County in that the vessel will be used exclusively for activities involving fisheries and habitat enhancement and maintenance, and other waterway maintenance, regulation, and enhancement.

There are sufficient unencumbered funds currently available in the BBEETF to fulfill this request.

# Memorandum



**Date:** March 30, 2026

**To:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Loren Parra, Director and Chief Resilience Officer  
Department of Environmental Resources Management

**Subject:** Request to Process Late Departmental Agenda Item

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I am respectfully requesting that the resolution listed below be placed on an April 2026, Board of County Commission Committee Meeting Agenda so the resolution may be in full effect by May 18, 2026. The County's application for this particular Waterway Assistance Program grant from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) is required to be accompanied by a resolution of this Board, and pursuant to Florida Administrative Code Rule 66B-2.006, such County resolution is required to follow a particular form and include certain required language and County certifications and must be submitted to FIND no later than May 18, 2026.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND) WATERWAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A WATERWAY MAINTENANCE VESSEL FOR THE REMOVAL OF MARINE DEBRIS, TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDS FROM SAID GRANT, AND TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING A DISBURSEMENT OF UP TO \$45,000.00 FROM THE COUNTY'S BISCAYNE BAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 24-40 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND CERTIFYING ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE FIND WATERWAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

I am aware that this item is subject to approval for placement on the agenda by the Board Chairman, and review by the Office of the County Attorney.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved by Mayor or Mayor's Designee**  
**Signature**

**Roy Coley**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved by Policy Director or Designee**  
**Signature**

**Demetria Henderson**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney  
CAOagenda@miamidade.gov



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** April 21, 2026

**FROM:**   
Geni Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 9(A)(4)

Please note any items checked.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **“3-Day Rule” for committees applicable if raised**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Budget required**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Statement of fiscal impact required**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Statement of social equity required**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor’s report for public hearing**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **No committee review**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3’s present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5’s \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, majority plus one \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) \_\_\_\_\_) to approve**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 9(A)(4)  
4-21-26

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND) WATERWAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A WATERWAY MAINTENANCE VESSEL FOR THE REMOVAL OF MARINE DEBRIS, TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDS FROM SAID GRANT, AND TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING A DISBURSEMENT OF UP TO \$45,000.00 FROM THE COUNTY'S BISCAYNE BAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-40 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND CERTIFYING ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE FIND WATERWAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

**WHEREAS**, the County wishes to apply for and receive grant funding from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) related to the County's marine debris removal program; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's application for this particular Waterway Assistance Program grant from FIND is required to be accompanied by a resolution of this Board, and pursuant to Florida Administrative Code Rule 66B-2.006, such County resolution is required to follow a particular form and include certain required language and County certifications, all of which are included herein; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is interested in carrying out the following described project for the enjoyment of the citizenry of Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida:

- Project Title: Vessel Acquisition for DERM Marine Debris Removal Program
- Total Estimated Cost: \$90,000.00

- Brief Description of Project: Miami-Dade County, through its Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), seeks to purchase a waterway maintenance vessel for the purpose of implementing and enhancing the County's marine debris removal and disposal program within Biscayne Bay, its tidal tributaries, and foreshore, as marine debris poses a hazard to navigation, property, public health and safety, and the environment, the timely and cost-effective removal and disposal of marine debris is critical to mitigating such hazards, and the purchase and use of such vessel by the County may allow it to conduct removal of marine debris more quickly and in a more cost-effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, FIND financial assistance is required for the program mentioned above; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that:

**Section 1.** The project described herein is hereby authorized, as provided in this resolution and with the County funding source as provided herein in section 4 of this resolution.

**Section 2.** The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is hereby authorized to apply to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterway Assistance Program for grant funding in the amount of 50 percent of the actual cost of the project on behalf of Miami-Dade County. As further outlined herein and in the grant application attached as Exhibit A to this resolution, the project is the purchase of a County waterway maintenance vessel for the purpose of implementing and enhancing the County's marine debris removal and disposal program in Biscayne Bay. The grant application shall be in substantially the form attached as Exhibit A. The

County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is further authorized to receive and expend the grant funds received pursuant to such application, and to execute a grant agreement that is consistent with the application and this resolution, after approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**Section 3.** This Board hereby certifies to the following:

1. The County will accept the terms and conditions set forth in FIND Rule 66B-2 of the Florida Administrative Code and which will be a part of the Project Agreement for any assistance awarded under the proposal included in the County's grant application and attached hereto as Exhibit A.
2. The County is in complete accord with such proposal and will carry out the Program in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto unless prior approval for any change has been received from FIND.
3. The County has the ability and intention to finance its share of the cost of the project, and the project will be operated and maintained at the expense of the County for public use.
4. The County will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, or national origin in the use of any property or facility acquired or developed pursuant to this proposal, and the County shall comply with the terms and intent of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L.88-352(1964) and design and construct all such facilities to comply fully with statutes relating to accessibility by persons with disabilities as well as other federal, state and local laws, rules and requirements.
5. The County will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed project to substantiate claims for reimbursement.

6. The County will make available to FIND, if requested, a post-audit of expenses incurred on the project prior to, or in conjunction with, a request for the final 10 percent of the funding agreed to by FIND.

**Section 4.** This Board, pursuant to section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, hereby approves the disbursement of up to \$45,000.00 of vessel registration fees from the Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF) to be used to fund the 50 percent match requirement of the FIND grant funding described in section 2 above. The use of the waterway maintenance vessel acquired with such vessel registration fees in the BBEETF shall be limited to those uses that are consistent with section 7-22.1 and section 24-40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, in addition to all applicable state laws related to the use of such vessel registration fees.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2026. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Cristina M. Rabionet

**2026 Florida Inland Navigation District  
Waterways Assistance Program  
Application**

**Miami-Dade County  
DERM Waterway Maintenance Vessel**



**ATTACHMENT E-1**  
**Waterways Assistance Program FY2026**  
**Applicant Checklist**

Project Title:	DERM Waterway Maintenance Vessel
Applicant:	Miami-Dade County through Dept. of Environmental Resources Management (DERM)

This checklist and the other items listed below in items 1 through 11 constitute your application. The required information shall be submitted in the order listed.

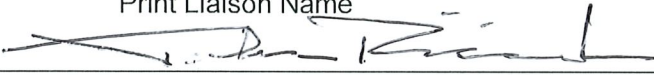
Electronic copies (2 separate PDF files per instructions – PDF File 1: Items 1-8, PDF File 2: Items 9-11) shall be emailed (15mb maximum file size) to CKelley@aicw.org. Applications must be received by the deadline, no exceptions.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. District Commissioner Review (prior to March 4th) <b>(NOTE: <u>For District Commissioner initials ONLY!</u>) (District Commissioner must initial the yes line on this checklist for the application to be deemed complete)</b>	<u>TSC</u>	_____
2. Application Checklist Attachment E-1 (Form No. 25-10, 2 pages) <b>(Form must be signed and dated)</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Application and Evaluation Worksheet Attachment E-2 (Form No. 25-15) <b>(First Page of Form Must be Signed)</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Project Cost Estimate Attachment E-3 (Form No. 25-20, 1 page) <b>(Must be on District form)</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Project Timeline Attachment E-4 (Form No. 25-25, 1 page)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. County/City Location Map	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Project Boundary Map	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Clear and Detailed Site Development Plan Map	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Continued on Next Page**

- |  | <u>YES</u>            | <u>NO</u>                        |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9. Official Resolution Form Attachment E-5 (Form No. 25-30, 2 pages)(Resolution must be on District Form and includes items 1-6) | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| 10. Attorney's Certification (Land Ownership) Attachment E-6 (Form No. 25-35, 1 page)  | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| 11. Copies of all Required Permits: ACOE, DEP, WMD (Requirement of Construction & Dredging Projects)                             | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

The undersigned, as applicant, acknowledges that Items 1 through 11 above constitutes a complete application and that this information is due in the District office no later than 4:30 PM, March 30, 2026. By May 18, 2026, my application must be deemed complete (except for permits) or it will be removed from any further consideration by the District. I also acknowledge that the information in Item 11 is due to the District no later than September 21, 2026. If the information in Item 11 is not submitted to the District office by September 21, 2026, I am aware that my application will be removed from any further funding consideration by the District.

<u>JOHN RICBSAK</u> Print Liaison Name	<u>BISCAYNE BAY PROGRAM MANAGER</u> Title
 Liaison Signature	<u>3/23/26</u> Date

FIND OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date Received:	_____
Local FIND Commissioner Review	_____
All Required Supporting Documents:	_____
Applicant Eligibility:	_____
Project Eligibility	_____ Available Score: _____
Compliance with Rule 66B-2 F.A.C.:	_____
Eligibility of Project Cost:	_____

ATTACHMENT E-2  
Waterways Assistance Program FY2026  
**Application and Evaluation Worksheet**

Local Sponsor: Miami-Dade County		Department: Environmental Resources Management	
Project Title: DERM Waterway Maintenance Vessel		Use "Phase I" for Design Projects. Use "Phase II" for Construction if you received FIND funding for Phase I Work.	
Project Director: John Ricisak		Email: john.ricisak@miamidade.gov	
Grant Liaison: (If Different from Director) As above		Email: As above	
Mailing Address: 701 NW 1st Court, 5th Floor			
City: Miami		Zip Code: 33136	
Phone Number: Office: 305-372-6581 Mobile: 305-487-2612			
Project Address: As above.			
Requested FIND Funding:	Up to \$45,000.00		
Eligible Matching Funds Amount:	Up to \$45,000.00		
Match Percentage:	50%		
Total Project Costs:	Up to \$90,000.00		
Applicant's Funding Source:	Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (BBEETF)		

*Roy Coley*

\*\*Applicant Signature Certifying the Above Information\*\*

Roy Coley

Print Name

**Project Summary: Maximum 200 Words**

Funding is requested to assist with the acquisition of a shallow-draft work boat to be used in the implementation of the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) marine debris removal program in Biscayne Bay and its tidal tributaries, including within and surrounding the Intracoastal Waterway and associated spoil islands. Bulky marine debris, including derelict vessels, lost and abandoned fishing gear, and larger floating and submerged objects, can pose a significant hazard to navigation, property, public safety, and the environment. The waterway maintenance vessel will increase DERM's ability to mitigate many such hazards in a more timely and cost-effective way than is currently available. The vessel will provide maximum flexibility in locating, documenting, and retrieving marine debris, especially in difficult to reach areas. The vessel is expected to be well-suited to transporting large - and larger amounts of - marine debris to shore for removal and disposal.

1. Priority Category:

- a) Choose one priority category of this project from the application instructions based upon the predominant cost of the project elements.

Other waterway related projects.

- b) Explain how the project fits into this priority category

Acquisition of this vessel will greatly assist with Miami-Dade County DERM's bulky marine debris removal program by expanding our ability to directly access, transport, and remove larger items and quantities of debris, including derelict vessels, lost and abandoned fishing gear, and other items posing a navigational and/or environmental hazard without having to contract out the work.

- c) Explain how the project relates to the District's Waterways and the mission of the Florida Inland Navigation District.

The vessel to be acquired with the requested funding will help to advance FIND's mission of ensuring the safety and navigational and ecological integrity of the District's waterways via the timely identification and removal of derelict vessels and other categories of marine debris.

2. Ownership of Project Site:

Own  Leased  Other

If leased or other, please describe lease or terms and conditions:

Not applicable. Miami-Dade County DERM will own, operate, and maintain the vessel.

3. Has the District previously provided assistance funding to this project or site?

Yes  No

4. If yes, please list the project name, number and funding amount received:

Not applicable.

5. What is the current level of public access in terms of the number of boat ramps, boat slips and trailer parking spaces, linear feet of boardwalk (etc.) if applicable?

Not applicable.

6. How many additional ramps, slips, parking spaces or other access features will be added by this project, and what is the approximate number of registered vessels estimated to use the constructed project?

Not applicable.

7. Public Usage & Benefits:

- a) What public access or navigational benefit to the District's waterways will result from this project? How will this project enhance public access to the District's waterways, and what specific navigational benefits will it provide to the community?

The project vessel will be used to facilitate the identification, transportation, and removal of marine debris, particularly larger classes of debris, located in and immediately adjacent to the District's waterways, thus eliminating real and potential hazards to navigation and life / safety.

- b) What is the current demand for public access or navigation facilities in the area, and how does this project address unmet needs or improve upon existing facilities?

Current demand for public access to the County's waterways is high and growing among local boaters and visitors alike. The need for the timely removal of marine debris, especially that posing a hazard to the public / navigation, has never been greater. The acquisition of the vessel is expected to help address this need.

- c) How does the project fit within regional or local maritime management plans, public access initiatives, or comprehensive plans, and how does it contribute to broader public usage goals?

The project vessel will facilitate the identification, removal, and disposal of derelict vessels, lost and abandoned fishing gear, and other types of marine debris, thereby contributing to the goals outlined in the Miami-Dade County Biscayne Bay Management Plan; the Biscayne National Park General Management Plan, Vol. 1, April 2015; Section 5 of the 2020 Biscayne Bay Task Force Report & Recommendations; and the Coastal Management Element of Miami-Dade's Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

- d) Has the local Sponsor implemented or plans to implement any boating access, speed zone, commercial access or other restrictive use in the area of this site?

Not applicable.

8. Fees & Maintenance:

Are there any fees associated with the use of this facility?

Yes

No

If answered Yes:

a) List or provide a fee schedule.

Not applicable. Note: Vessel acquisition will be a one-time purchase.

b) Provide a listing of the fees charged by similar facilities, public and private, in the project area.

Not applicable.

c) Pursuant to Rule 66B-2.004(11), if there are any fees, please explain how these fees are tracked and what they are used for.

Not applicable.

d) Clearly demonstrate how the project will continue to be maintained and funded after initial funding is completed.

Routine maintenance and any necessary repair will be performed and funded by the project sponsor through the life of the vessel as part of DERM's fleet maintenance program.

9. Please list all Environmental Resource Permits required for this project:

Agency	Y/N	Date Applied	Date Received
Water Management District	N/A		
Dept of Environmental Protection	N/A		
USACE	N/A		

**10. a) Construction**

This question is to be answered only if this application is for a **Construction** project.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**PERMITTING:**

- Have all required environmental permits been applied for? (USACE, DEP and WMD) If permits are NOT required, explain why not.
- Detail any significant impediments that may have been identified that would potentially delay the timely issuance of the required permits.
- For Phase I design, permitting, and engineering projects, please provide a general cost estimate for the future Phase II construction work.

**CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES:**

- What is the design life of the project and proposed materials?
- What considerations, if any, have been made for storm surge and hurricane impacts in the design and life span of this project?

**Construction Project:** Maximum 200 Words (Address all bullet points above)

Not applicable.

**10. b) Environmental Education**

This question is to be answered only if this application is for an Environmental Education project.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**DILIGENCE:**

- Who is the primary target audience or user group for the project and how were they identified?
- How have the needs of the target audience been evaluated and met?
- How many people will the program serve on an annual basis? What will be the measurable results?
- Describe the materials and project deliverables to be produced by this project.
- Describe the plan for dissemination of the materials produced through the project,

**EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Please briefly describe the qualifications of the program administrator(s), including prior experience, and areas of expertise.
- What previous projects of this nature have been completed by the program manager?

**PROJECT GOALS:**

- What are the long-term goals of this project as it relates to the ICW?
- What is the expected duration/frequency of this program?

**Environmental Education Project:** Maximum 400 Words (Address all bullet points above)

Not applicable; however, the vessel can and likely will be used during marine debris community service cleanups organized by DERM which typically include environmental education components.

**10. c) Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Projects**

This question is to be answered **only** if this application is for Law Enforcement and Boating Safety projects.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**WATERWAY RELATIONSHIP:**

- Describe how the project will enhance boating access, safety, or enforcement efforts on the waterway, and address the identified needs or benefits for public safety.

**EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS:**

- List the personnel tasked with the implementation of this project, their qualifications, previous training and experience.

**DELIVERABLES:**

- Describe the project deliverables and why this particular law enforcement vessel, equipment or facility improvements was selected or are necessary.

**AREA OF COVERAGE**

- What is the range or area of coverage for this project?

**Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Project: Maximum 200 Words (Address all bullet points above)**

Acquisition of the vessel will enhance boating access and safety by facilitating access to, and transportation and removal of, various bulky marine debris posing a hazard to navigation, public safety, and the environment.

The vessel will be utilized by DERM staff possessing extensive knowledge and experience working in District Waterways within Miami-Dade County. The two main DERM personnel initially involved in this project are the following:

John Ricisak, Biscayne Bay Program Manager: 35-year DERM veteran. Has managed Miami-Dade County's Derelict Vessel Removal Program for the past 20 years. Has overseen removal and disposal of over 550 derelict and abandoned vessels, thousands of derelict crab and lobster traps, myriad other items of bulky marine debris including multiple illegal inwater structures, and countless tons of miscellaneous other types of marine debris. Served as compliance/enforcement supervisor of DERM's Coastal Resources Section for 20 +years. Currently focuses on marine debris issues, however continues to be active as a code enforcement officer as it relates to the County's marine environment.

Jonathan Sidner, Biologist II: 21-year veteran of DERM's Restoration & Enhancement Section. Has vast boating and diving experience, both recreationally and in his professional capacity at DERM. Currently assigned to DERM's marine debris removal program.

**10. d) Inlet or Public Navigation**

This question is to be answered **only** if this application is for an Inlet or Public Navigation dredging project.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**WATERWAY RELATIONSHIP:**

- Will the project inhibit sediment inflow into, or reduce the dredging frequency of the Intracoastal Waterway channel?
- How does the project directly benefit the Intracoastal Waterway channel?
- Identify any long-term sedimentation problems and briefly discuss any methods or activities that will address these issues.

**PUBLIC ACCESS**

- Describe in brief detail how the project will enhance public access to or from the Intracoastal Waterway? List the upstream publicly accessible facilities with improved access because of this project.

**BENEFICIAL PROJECT ELEMENTS:**

- Describe any economic benefits to be realized by implementing this project.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

- When was this area last dredged? What is the expected frequency of future dredging? Where will the dredged material be relocated to?

**Inlet or Public Navigation Project:** Maximum 200 Words (Address all bullet points above)

Not applicable.

**10. e) Beach Renourishment**

This question is to be answered only if this application is for a Beach Renourishment project.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**WATERWAY RELATIONSHIP:**

- Describe how the District and other navigation interests will benefit from the implementation of this project.

**VIABILITY:**

- Is the project site defined as critically eroded area by a statewide beach management plan?
- Cite the quantifiable rate of erosion in this area.
- Is the project an important component of an overall beach management effort?

**PUBLIC BENEFITS:**

- Are there quantifiable public benefits demonstrated by the project?
- Is there adequate public access to the project area? Please describe location and amount.

**PROJECT FUNDING:**

- Describe any assistance funding from other sources.
- Clarify the availability of long-term funding for this project.

**Beach Renourishment Project: Maximum 200 Words (Address all bullet points above)**

Not applicable.

**11. Disaster Relief**

This question is to be answered only if this application is for repairs/construction of waterways facilities damaged by a declared natural disaster.

In the summary box at the bottom of this page, please address each of the bullet points listed below to maximize your score for this competitive grant application.

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**STORM DAMAGE EVALUATION:**

- List the State of Emergency declaration order or proclamation & the name and date of the storm/event. [Pursuant to State of emergency declared under Chapter 252, F.S.]
- Describe the extent of the damage that was caused due to the storm/event and any Construction/Resiliency Improvements planned for the project.
- What is the current status of your FEMA paperwork for the project?

**PROJECT FUNDING:**

- Describe the other funding mechanisms and financial assistance that will be applied to defray the reconstruction costs or damage repair

**Disaster Relief Project:** Maximum 200 Words (Address all bullet points above)

Not applicable; however, the vessel would be available for use during post-storm recovery operations.

ATTACHMENT E-3  
Waterway Assistance Program FY2026

**PROJECT COST ESTIMATE**

(See Rule Section 66B-2.005 & 2.008 for eligibility and funding ratios)

<b>Project Title:</b>	DERM Waterway Maintenance Vessel
<b>Applicant:</b>	Miami-Dade County through the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM)

Project Elements <i>(Please list the MAJOR project elements and provide general costs for each one. )</i>	Total Estimated Cost	Applicant's Cost (To the nearest \$50)	FIND Cost (To the nearest \$50)
2472 Workhorse by SeaArk	\$ 23,365	\$ 11,683	\$ 11,683
Yamaha F250XB engine	\$ 29,702	\$ 14,851	\$ 14,851
Trailer	\$ 9,176	\$ 4,588	\$ 4,588
Additional Features & Options	\$ 17,706	\$ 8,853	\$ 8,853
Contingency	\$ 10,051	\$ 5,025	\$ 5,025

<b>**TOTALS =</b>	<b>\$ 90,000</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>
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**ATTACHMENT E-4**  
**Waterways Assistance Program FY2026**  
**PROJECT TIMELINE**

<b>Project Title:</b>	DERM Waterway Maintenance Vessel
<b>Applicant:</b>	Miami-Dade County through Department of Environmental Resources Management

The applicant is to present a detailed timeline on the accomplishment of the components of the proposed project including, as applicable, completion dates for: permitting, design, bidding, applicant approvals, initiation of construction and completion of construction. NOTE: All funded activities must begin AFTER October 1<sup>st</sup> or be consistent with Rule 66B-2.005(3) - Pre-agreement expenses.

Acquisition of the project vessel is expected to occur as soon as possible after award. An estimated timeframe is as follows:

October 1, 2026 - FIND WAP award is announced.

November 1, 2026 - Grant agreement between FIND and Miami-Dade County signed and executed.

December 1, 2026 - Purchase order issued.

February 1, 2027 - Vessel and trailer delivered.

March 15, 2027 - Vessel and trailer registrations finalized.

April 1, 2027 - Vessel put into operation.





