

# TOWN COUNCIL



## STAFF REPORT

### Projects and Watershed Resilience Department

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	May 12, 2026
<b>PROJECT:</b>	Authorization to Amend Contract #2025-53 for the New River Linear Trail Construction with Nix Construction to Accommodate Unforeseen Field Conditions (Fiscal Impact: \$320,000.00)
<b>PROJECT MANAGER:</b>	Pat Rooney, Capital Improvement Program Manager

**REQUEST:** Town Staff requests Town Council authorize the Town Manager to spend no more than \$320,000.00 addition to the contract authorization with Nix Construction to complete construction of the New River Linear Trail Project. This amount represents \$264,930.04 muck and fill cost estimates plus a twenty percent contingency for additional unknown field conditions. The total fiscal impact including change orders and contingency is \$4,428,518.09 (Attachment 2) and within the approved budget established for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and illustrated on the attached Project Data Sheets (Attachments 3).

**BACKGROUND:** The New River Linear Trail consists of 3.2 miles of pathway improvements from the New River to Sun City Hilton Head, construction of three new bridges, pier, and trail connection to the parking lot and the Four Seasons boardwalk. The project is part of the 2014 Comprehensive Plan, 2025-2026 Strategic Plan and the FY 2026 Consolidated Budget. Contract #2025-53 with Nix Construction was approved by Town Council in June 2025 and construction began in July.

Geotechnical reports were completed and core samples of the existing pathway were acquired prior to construction. It became apparent during construction that additional core sampling closer to the top of the bank was needed to further enhance the overall understanding of the subsurface soil conditions beyond what was reflected in the initial geotechnical report.

The additional sampling information identified a substantial increase in the quantity of muck and backfill. The contract line item for muck and backfill, originally specified at bid at 1,400 cubic yards, requires revision to 15,508 cubic yards.

**NEXT STEPS:** Upon Town Council approval, the Town Manager will execute a change order to authorize the contractor to move forward with the additional scope of work to complete the New River Linear Trail. The contractor is ready to begin this work as soon as the change order is approved.

**SUMMARY:** The FY 2026 Budget approval for the New River Linear Trail construction was \$4,909,520. The original contract amount plus contingency and this change order request is proposed to be \$4,428,518.09 and within the FY26 Budget approved by Town Council.

Additionally, this project is funded in part by a Legislative Award Agreement. The Town received \$2,000,000.00 in grant funding administered through the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism for this project which will assist with the construction costs.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Presentation
2. Spending Authorization Detail
3. Project Data Sheet
4. Proposed Motion