



Date: June 9, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Sean O’Keefe

Re: Consideration and Approval: **LEAD Municipal/County Cost Sharing Study**

Objective:

To consider and approve the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills' participation in a Lake Economic Area Development (LEAD) Municipal/County cost sharing study, a regional effort to analyze and model the costs of municipal service delivery and improve future interlocal coordination.

Summary:

The Town has been invited to join a collaborative, countywide cost-of-service study, initiated by Lake 100 and co-funded by the Lake County Board of County Commissioners and the municipalities within Lake County. The purpose of this study is to provide each participating municipality with a third-party, data-driven analysis of the actual cost of delivering local services and how those services are shared with or supplemented by Lake County.

The requested cost of participation for the Town is \$3,000, with the County covering half of the total study cost and the remaining share distributed among the other municipalities. The goal of the study is to: provide an independent cost-of-service analysis tailored to the municipalities’ service models; provide a comparison of municipal and county service responsibilities, identifying overlap, gaps, and duplication; perform financial modeling and forecasting tools to inform budgeting, planning, and policy decisions. A final report detailing cost-per-service metrics, interlocal relationship analysis, and long-term fiscal sustainability assessments will be created.

This study will directly support the Town’s ability to make strategic, data-driven decisions regarding service delivery, infrastructure investments, and potential growth impacts.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact is \$3,000.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the \$3,000 contribution to the LEAD cost sharing study.