



**City of LaBelle Board of Commissioners
Agenda Request**

To: Honorable Mayor and City Commission
Prepared By: **Woodard & Curran Fiscal Solutions Team**
Date of Meeting: 12/12/20204
Date Submitted: TBD
Title of Agenda Item: LaBelle SAHFI Drinking Water Facility Plan
Agenda Location: 481 West Hickpochee Ave LaBelle, FL 33975

Report in brief: In 2024, the City submitted a Request for Inclusion to the State Revolving Fund for the Supplemental Appropriation for Hurricanes Fiona and Ian and was awarded \$19,500,000 with \$50,000 dollars earmarked for planning activities. The City of LaBelle entered into an engineering services contract with Woodard & Curran to produce a Drinking Water Facilities Plan for planning and funding services for the City's Drinking Source Protection, Water Treatment Hardening and Distribution System Redundancy Project to meet Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permitting and compliance standards. Planning for this project is now complete and approved by the FDEP. The LaBelle Drinking Water SRF Facilities Plan recommended a series of capacity and operational redundancy improvements that would enhance the continuity of the system's operations and meet the 20-year projected needs of the system to serve the community reliably in the future. At present, the system is close to having inadequate water storage and is highly vulnerable to failures and operational interruptions resulting from flooding and other natural disasters. This funding will help the City of LaBelle address the drinking water vulnerabilities when hit with severe weather and provide a more robust drinking water system and additionally, prevent the City from inadvertently violating Florida Administrative Code with respect to useful finished water storage. The purpose of this hearing is to present the findings from the Facility Plan and discuss potential impacts of the proposed upgrades.

Staff Comments:

Fiscal Impact: This project is being funded with a 100% Principal Forgiveness Loan through FDEP SRF.

Recommended Actions: Review and Approve findings of LaBelle SAHFI Drinking Water Facility Plan.