
CITY OF PORT LAVACA

MEETING: APRIL 2, 2024 **AGENDA ITEM** _____

DATE: 3.27.2024

TO: PORT COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS CC: JIM RUDELLAT, HARBOR MASTER

FROM: JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: **MBMT GRANT – DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS IMPR.**

BACKGROUND:

The Port Commission has been discussing improvements to the parking lot behind Nautical Landings for a few years. In order to budget adequate funds to include landscaping and sidewalks, the adopted FYE24 Capital Improvement plan shows a total of \$300,000 budgeted for the Nautical Landings Parking Lot improvements. Recognizing that this parking lot will be used as public parking for downtown in addition to parking for building tenants, this cost was equally split between Ports & Harbors and the General Fund, as approved by Council.

- September 19, 2023, I approached the Port Commission about the idea of making application to the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust for a project that would be consistent with the adopted Downtown Waterfront Master Plan which would make improvements to the area around Poor Boy Bait to include some bulkhead, public walkway, a deck for fishing and crabbing, transient public boat slips. The Port Commission endorsed the idea of applying for a grant. At that meeting, I commented that the parking lot would not be concrete, but instead asphalt and that parts of the parking lot will be impervious and that we were working with the Clean Coast Texas program to help in the design of such.
- October 9, 2023, I approached Council about the idea of using the \$300,000 budgeted in the CIP for this parking lot improvements as a committed match for the grant application, which would increase the chances of being awarded the grant. In the discussion, it was recognized that these funds were in the FY2025/26 budget and if we were successful with the grant, the actual expenditure of these funds could possibly be needed a year earlier in the FY 24/25 year. Council voted to commit \$300,000 matching funds for the Parking Lot Improvements.
- October 17, 2023, I reviewed the submitted application with the Port Commission. I mentioned that I was not able to include any bulkheading in front of Poor Boy Bait because I was cautioned that the scoring committee generally will not approve the use of grant dollars within leased property. I also provided the budget, mentioning that Council had approved a commitment of a \$300,000 match.

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The Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust did award the project to the City of Port Lavaca and at the Council meeting on February 12, Council approved the contract with the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust for \$400,000 toward the proposed Downtown Waterfront Public Access Improvement Project with an estimated total cost of \$700,000.

This project was discussed at a recent Green Infrastructure Workshop hosted by the City of Port Lavaca and presented by GLO Clean Coast Texas and we are making plans to apply for Clean Coast Texas grant funding to go towards the \$100,000 budget in this project for Green Infrastructure drainage elements for the parking lot improvements.

Urban Surveying performed the topographic survey needed for engineering design earlier this week.