April 1, 2025 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting Agenda Item

SUBJECT:

Entry and Access Agreement between The Nature Conservancy and Orange County, Polk County, Tohopekaliga Water Authority, and the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District f/k/a Reedy Creek Improvement District for water supply monitoring.

DESCRIPTION:

In June 2007, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) approved individual 20-year Water Use Permits (WUP) for the withdrawal of groundwater from the Floridan Aquifer to five central Florida utilities: the City of St. Cloud, Tohopekaliga Water Authority, Orange County, Polk County, and the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District (CFTOD), formerly Reedy Creek Improvement District, collectively known as the STOPR Group. Each permit contains a common set of requirements, justifying a collaborative approach to monitoring and reporting for economy and efficiency.

This agreement with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) grants the STOPR Group permission to access TNC property, known as the Disney Wilderness Preserve in Osceola and Polk Counties, for the limited purposes of monitoring, surveying, and photographing vegetation and soil associated with and proximate to SFWMD monitoring wells. The STOPR Group designated WSP USA, Inc. as their agent authorized to enter the property and conduct monitoring activity on behalf of the STOPR Group.

RECOMMENDATION:

County staff recommends approval of the attached Entry and Access Agreement between The Nature Conservancy and Orange County, Polk County, Tohopekaliga Water Authority, and the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District f/k/a Reedy Creek Improvement District for water supply monitoring.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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