

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

Department of the Treasury

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

Directions: Use this form for the Initial Multiyear Plan and any subsequent amendments to an accepted Multiyear Plan. For amendments, include only new and/or materially modified activities.

Multiyear Plan Version (Initial or Amendment Number):	Amendment #2
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	5/16/2017
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	9/16/2019

Eligible Applicant Name:	Santa Rosa County
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Naisy Dolar
POC Title:	RESTORE Program Manager
POC Email:	naisyd@santarosa.fl.gov
POC Phone:	850-981-2019

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

1. A description of each activity, including the need, purpose, objective(s), milestones and location. Include map showing the location of each activity.

As an update to Santa Rosa County's initial RESTORE Multi-year Implementation Plan (MYIP), accepted by Treasury on 5/16/2017, and first Amended on 9/16/2019, the County proposes the following amendments:

Project dates revised for the following projects:

- #1 Dirt Road Paving Districts 1,4,5
- #2 Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements
- #4 Eufala Outfall Treatment
- #5 Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park
- #6 Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Project
- #7 Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction Project
- #12 Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure Improvements

Addition of the following new projects:

#15 Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility Expansion

This project includes upgrades of the Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility from a 2.0 millions gallons per day (MGD) to a 3.5 MGD facility. The upgrade will provide the needed infrastructure to increase capacity for planned septic abatement and regional reclaimed & reuse water access throughout the Southern region of Santa Rosa County

Need: The South Santa Rosa Utility System operates the Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment facility. The facility serves both the City of Gulf Breeze as well as residents and businesses in unincorporated Santa Rosa County. Since 2017, the facility has had 3 month average annual flows that are near or exceeds capacity necessitating an upgrade to support usage and population growth in Santa Rosa County. The upgrade is also necessary to support planned septic to sewer conversions for over 1500 residents within city limits as part of the Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) as well as future conversions within the utility's service area in the county.

Purpose: The purpose is to construct the necessary upgrades to the wastewater treatment facility.

Objective: The objective is to increase the capacity of the Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment Facility in order to support increased demand, population growth and planned septic abatement.

Milestones include: permitting, procurement of contractor, construction completion.

#16 North Santa Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility – Phase II

This project consists of a planned construction phase for a new wastewater treatment plant that includes the construction of a force main pipeline that will run from the new treatment facility, northward to the Rapid Infiltration Basins north of NAS Whiting Field. The project would serve the Northern region of Santa Rosa County. Service areas include the City of Milton, the areas of Berryhill, East Milton, NAS Whiting Field, and all industrial parks and economic development site acreage currently available within the county.

Need: A new wastewater treatment plant is critical infrastructure necessary to support economic growth and reduce effluent discharge in the Blackwater River. The County's population and household count has increased at a 15% growth rate from 2010 to 2017. This population growth as well as the expansion of the industrial corridor within the County strains the limits of the capacity of the current facility located in the City of Milton. A new plant would not only serve current and future residents, it would serve areas proposed for future economic development, including Whiting Aviation Park and parcels along the I-10 corridor. In addition, the current facility is permitted for a maximum discharge capacity of 2.5 MGD, which at maximum capacity experiences overflow that contributes to non-point source pollution in the Blackwater River. The construction of a new wastewater treatment plant would prevent potential overflow and reduce pollution in the Blackwater River.

Objective: The objective of this project is to construct needed infrastructure to support current and predicted Wastewater treatment demand and to remove the effluent discharge in the Blackwater River.

Milestones: Permitting, procurement of contractor, construction completion.

2. How the applicant made the multiyear plan available for 45 days for public review and comment, in a manner calculated to obtain broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations, such as through public meetings, presentations in languages other than English, and postings on the Internet. The applicant will need to submit documentation (e.g., a copy of public notices) to demonstrate that it made its multiyear plan available to the public for at least 45 days. In addition, describe how each activity in the multiyear plan was approved after consideration of all meaningful input from the public and submit documentation (e.g., a letter from the applicant's leadership approving submission of the multiyear plan to Treasury or a resolution approving the applicant's multiyear plan).

On Sept 23, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved the commencement of Amendment #2 of the MYIP to include new projects. Public participation and comments were welcomed over a 12th month (Sept 2019 – Sept 2020) community engagement process. Opportunities for input included staff meetings with municipalities, two public input meetings in the north and south end of the county, publicly noticed Local RESTORE Council meetings and Board of County Commissioner meetings, as well as the required 45-day public comment period.

The timeline for the Amendment #2 process is as follows:

September 2019 – BOCC commencement of the Amendment #2 process to include new projects

September-November 2019 – Staff meeting with municipalities

November-December 2019 – Two public update and input meetings held

January 19, 2020 – 1st Local RESTORE Council meeting: Introduction of proposed projects identified by municipal leaders; identify priority considerations

May 19, 2020 – 2nd Local RESTORE Council meeting: Project presentations, evaluation of criteria and prioritization ranking began

June 23, 2020 – 3rd Local RESTORE Council meeting: Report of results, staff follow up/analysis; selection of recommended projects for consideration

July 9, 2020 – BOCC Regular Meeting – Board approved two projects to be included in MYIP Amendment #2 draft.

July-September 2020 – Drafting of MYIP Amendment #2 and 45-day public comment period

October-November 2020 – Submission to U.S. Treasury for review

During the June 23, 2020 Local RESTORE Council meeting, members selected (with public input) three new projects for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to include in the MYIP Amendment #2 draft. During the July 9, 2020 Board of County Commissioners Regular public meeting, the Board approved two projects to be included in the MYIP Amendment #2 to be drafted for a 45-day public comment and review.

Throughout the process, discussions highlighted previously identified priorities which included water quality, infrastructure, habitat restoration and land acquisition for conservation. Water quality improvements was identified as the most important focus area by community members, the Local RESTORE Council (LRC) and the BOCC. The LRC, consisting of 11 appointed members representative of County regions and municipalities, were charged to consider public input, evaluate, prioritize, and recommend projects for MYIP inclusion to the Board of County Commissioners. Evaluation guidelines included RESTORE criteria eligibility, regional impact, leveraged funding and legacy opportunity. The two new projects proposed in this amendment addresses the County's priority to improve water quality--consistent with the overall public sentiment through the LRC-- by removing treated effluent from the Blackwater River and increasing the capacity of the Tiger Point Wastewater Facility for septic abatement and effluent reuse.

During the public participation meetings (LRC), attendees voiced the need to prioritize water quality. There was no public challenge that the most critical priority is to remove the effluent discharge and wastewater from directly entering the Blackwater River and Santa Rosa Sound. Prior to the 45-day public comment period, five comments were electronically submitted as part of the LRC meeting for consideration. One comment was in support of the North Santa Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility, one comment emphasized the need for more stormwater projects, two advocated for land acquisition projects, and one introduced the need for a recreational swimming pool. In addition, several Local RESTORE Council members received direct emails in support of both the Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements and the North Sant Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility.

The Local RESTORE Council considered the public input and further evaluated the proposed new projects as the most impactful in improving water quality for future generations in Santa Rosa County. On June 23, 2020, the LRC selected three new project recommendations to the BOCC for MYIP Amendment #2 inclusion. During the July 9, 2020 Board of County Commissioners Regular meeting, the Board approved two projects to be included in the MYIP Amendment #2 draft for the required 45-day public comment. The third project was retracted from consideration and is being considered for further RESTORE Spill Component funding. During the 45-day public comment period, two additional comments were received. One proposed additional stormwater projects in a specific subdivision and one that advocated for prioritizing water quality overall.

Both the Local RESTORE Council and the Board of County Commissioners validates the importance of the comments submitted for future water quality projects that include stormwater treatment and other habitat restoration and conservation initiatives. It is the intention of the County to further consider such project ideas in future MYIP amendments.

The County Public Information Officer issued two press releases notifying local media and social media outlets about the amendment and the opportunities to provide public comment during the review period. The Amendment was made available on the County website RESTORE page and the County Grants Department office for public comment and review. Input could be provided through email or written form. Notices were also advertised in the Santa Rosa Press Gazette, Navarre Press and the Gulf Breeze News.

3. How each activity included in the applicant's multiyear plan narrative meets all the requirements under the RESTORE Act, including a description of how each activity is eligible for funding based on the geographic location of each activity and how each activity qualifies for at least one of the eligible activities under the RESTORE Act.

Each of the proposed new activities are located in the Gulf Coast Region and will carry out one or more of the eligible activities as defined by the RESTORE Act

This Amendment #2 proposes two projects meeting the following eligible activity:

Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure:

#15 Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility Expansion

This project includes upgrades of the Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility from a 2.0 MGD to a 3.5 MGD facility. The upgrade will provide the needed infrastructure to increase capacity for planned septic abatement and regional reclaimed & reuse water access throughout the Southern region of Santa Rosa County

#16 North Santa Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility - Phase II

This project consists of a planned construction phase that includes the construction of a force-main pipeline to a Rapid Infiltration Basin system (RIB's) for a new wastewater treatment plant servicing the Northern region of Santa Rosa County. Service areas include the City of Milton, the areas of Berryhill, East Milton, NAS Whiting Field, and all industrial parks and economic development site acreage currently available within the county. A new plant would not only serve current and future residents, it would serve areas proposed for future economic development purposes. The construction of a new wastewater treatment plant would remove up to 2.5M gallons per day of effluent being discharged from the existing facility to a planned land site.

4. Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate the success of the activities included in the multiyear plan narrative in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The following criteria will be used to measure the success of the proposed projects:

#15 Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility Expansion

--Increased capacity of the treatment facility.

#16 North Santa Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility – Phase II

--Decrease of effluent discharge in the Blackwater River

5. How the activities included in the multiyear plan narrative were prioritized and list the criteria used to establish the priorities.

On September 23, 2019, during the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) regular meeting, the BOCC approved moving forward with a second amendment to our MYIP to include new projects. The process was slightly different from the first round based on

lessons learned and the prioritization of legacy projects with leveraged funding. Staff was directed to reach out to municipalities to identify project priorities for consideration by the Local RESTORE Council and the Board of County Commissioners.

The Local RESTORE Council was engaged to evaluate and prioritize new projects for consideration by the BOCC as part of the vetting process. The LRC met three times (1/14, 5/19 and 6/23) to complete the prioritization. All meetings were publicly noticed and open to the public for in-person and remote attendance/viewing. The process included discussion and identification of priority considerations and eligibility, introduction of the projects proposed by municipalities, planned presentations by respective jurisdiction representatives, evaluations and rankings by Local RESTORE Council members, clarifications and questions by LRC members, and additional information gathered from staff follow-up. Public input was welcome throughout the entire process through public input forms and during the public meetings.

Key factors/criteria used to establish priorities included:

- Meeting RESTORE eligibility requirements:
- Organizational capacity to meet application requirements (i.e. a completed sub-recipient risk assessment, proof of internal financial and procurement controls, single audit documentation, best available science documentation, identified risks and mitigation plan, estimated useful life, site control/real property documentation and maintenance plans.
- Environmental need and Impact (How does this project impact the environment? Has the project sponsor reviewed the planned scope of work in relation to any federal environmental laws that may apply? Have any environmental consultations or reviews been conducted?
- Leveraged funding – Are there other funds officially committed to this project? Is there a timeline for when committed funds are accessible? Are there other pending funding requests?
- Planned timing – When is the planned project start date for the proposed project funding? If the proposed project is part of a larger plan, what is the overall project timeline?
- Shovel readiness – What planning efforts have already been completed or implemented for this project? Will the project be “ready to go” if funding becomes available? What permits, easement acquisitions, site surveys, plans, studies have been completed? What actions or tasks still need to be completed?
- Legacy project – Does the project make a sustainable impact on Santa Rosa County’s environment, infrastructure and economy? Who will benefit from this project?
- Historical efforts- Describe historical efforts to initiate, fund or complete the project. How long has the jurisdiction been planning and pursuing funding for this project?
- Risk mitigation planning - If this project does not receive RESTORE funding and other planned funding, what are the project implications? Are there alternative funding and timeline plans?

An evaluation and prioritization ranking form was completed and submitted by Local RESTORE Council members. Three projects were selected by the LRC for further consideration by the BOCC.

6. If applicable, describe the amount and current status of funding from other sources (e.g., other RESTORE Act contribution, other third party contribution) and provide a description of the specific portion of the project to be funded by the RESTORE Act Direct Component.

#15 Tiger Point Wastewater Treatment & Reclamation Facility Expansion- The total anticipated cost of the upgrade and expansion project for the Tiger Point Facility is \$25,600,000. The planned subrecipient for this project intends to contribute \$19,600,000. which is expected to be secured through a State Revolving Fund loan. The direct component allocation would be applied to the construction phase of the total project.

#16 North Santa Rosa Wastewater Treatment Facility -Phase II – The total anticipated cost for this Phase of the project is approximately \$7, 083,725. Third party contributions include a \$500,000 Florida Legislative allocation (2019) and \$83, 725 from the City of Milton dedicated reserves. The direct component allocation would be applied toward the construction phase of the force-main pipeline.