



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL Budget Shortfalls: Process Options

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval



FPL Budget Shortfalls

Issue: Council process needed for member requests for additional funds to cover FPL budget shortfalls

Goal of presentation

- Review process options
 - Including fiscal discipline
- Reach consensus on Council process
 - Set path forward for finalizing process



Applying Fiscal Discipline

Before requesting additional funding

- Member should first consider addressing shortfall through other means:
 - Modifying the activity*
 - Seeking alternative funding sources
 - Rejecting bid and re-advertising

* Note: Some modifications would require FPL amendment via a Council vote.



Process Options: Step 1

Option 1: Member makes funding request directly to Steering Committee (SC)

Option 2: Council staff first reviews member request and makes recommendation to SC

Option 3: Member workgroup first reviews request and makes recommendation to SC



Process: Step 2

Step 2 - Potential Steering Committee Options

- Seek additional info from member
- Recommend approval to Council
 - After public notice (30 days)
- Recommend disapproval to Council
 - Could lead to scope change or deauthorization (public notice and Council vote)



Process: Step 3

Step 3 - Potential Council Options

- Approve funding request
- Disapprove funding request
- Consider at later date (e.g., subsequent FPL)



Timing Options

- **Option 1:** Requests are considered as they arise
- **Option 2:** Council holds periodic meetings (e.g., twice a year) where such funding requests are considered
 - Could also include Category 2 to 1 votes



Proposed Next Steps

- **Council staff drafts budget shortfall process**
 - Brief document (one to two pages)
- **Steering Committee review**
 - Further discussion, if needed
- **Steering Committee consensus on final written process**