

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Tommy Strowd, Deputy Executive Director, Operations and Maintenance

**DATE:** October 01, 2010

**SUBJECT:** **4600002249-Everglades Agricultural Area Environmental Protection District (EAA EPD) Cost Share Agreement**

**Background:** In order to maintain and further improve Stormwater Treatment Areas (STA) performance, it is necessary for the District to continue monitoring the mechanism and performance, as well as to conduct applied studies. The EAA EPD has developed a productive applied research program to address STA optimization, and along with the District, recognizes the ongoing need for optimizing the phosphorus removal performance and enhancing the sustainability of the STAs. This agreement provides for an STA research technical team to be formed by the parties, and for joint funding of research priorities to further the common interests and collaborative intentions of the District and the EAA EPD.

**How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan:** Helps us achieve the goals of the Everglades Program by working cooperatively with another government agency to perform analyses in the STAs and optimize their performance.

**Funding Source:** This item is funded by dedicated funds from the Everglades Trust Fund through the Long-Term Plan, in the amount of \$400,000. The Everglades Agricultural Area Environmental Protection District will contribute \$300,000 as a cost-share partner.

**This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:** The activities that will result from this agreement potentially include all of the STAs in the Everglades Agricultural Area (STA-1E, STA-1W, STA-2, STA-3/4, STA-5, and STA-6, map attached). The District's STA scientists will be involved in the implementation of the terms of this agreement.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?** This item implies that the District will continue to fund this item annually, beyond the FY11 funding committed.

**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?** This item emphasizes the collaborative relationship between the District and the EAA EPD in jointly funding and prioritizing essential research activities in the STAs that will help optimize performance to reduce phosphorus discharged to the Everglades Protection Area. The agreement will promote improved communications among the STA technical research community in establishing a solid direction for STA optimization. The enhanced communications and partnering that have been improving between the parties may be adversely affected if this item is not approved.

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Attachment

### ATTACHMENT

Map of Everglades Agricultural Area Environmental Protection District,  
Including the Stormwater Treatment Areas

