

**City of Tamarac**  
**Interoffice Memorandum**  
**Department**

**To:** Michael C. Cernech, City Manager  
**From:** Kathleen Gunn, Assistant City Manager  
**Date:** January 27, 2020  
**Re:** TR 13391 The Ferguson Group Amendment #11

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**Recommendation:**

Place the above referenced item on the February 12, 2020 City Commission Meeting agenda for Commission consideration.

**Issue:**

Approval of Amendment #11 to the agreement between the City of Tamarac and The Ferguson Group, LLC providing for Federal lobbying services for an additional one year period.

**Background:**

In February 2008 the City entered into an agreement for Federal lobbying services with The Ferguson Group, LLC. The original two year agreement provided that upon expiration, the parties could choose to extend the agreement annually. The Ferguson Group specializes in representing local governments and public agencies and provides assistance and counsel on appropriations, federal grants and legislative policy matters. Over the course of the agreement, the City has worked with The Ferguson Group to affect and/or support legislative issue of importance to Tamarac and to identify sources of funding for key City projects, through both the appropriation and grant process.

As the funding process at the national level remains focused on agency grant awards versus legislative appropriations, the Ferguson Group has focused on identifying sources of grant funding for specific City projects. Over the course of the past year, while we continued to monitor appropriations, the City and Ferguson staff focused on identifying federal grant opportunities for key projects and assisted with preparation and/or review of applications for submission.

We continue to seek congressional support for major projects. The following requests remain at the focal point for congressional consideration.

- Economic Development and redevelopment
- Technology upgrades
- Parks related projects
- Public safety and emergency preparedness response
- Arterial corridor redevelopment
- Water and sewer projects

The existing agreement provides that the Ferguson Group will plan and implement legislative strategies designed to accomplish the City's initiatives, assist in the preparation of supporting materials for the initiatives, develop meetings with members of Congress and staff to advance the initiatives, and serve as a liaison to federal agencies relevant to the initiatives.

The proposed amendment to the agreement provides for continuation of services at the current rate of \$85,500 per year through February 12, 2021, under the same terms and conditions as the existing agreement. The agreement provides for no additional fees or expenses other than those related to out of town travel and travel between Washington and Florida. All travel expenses are subject to prior approval by the City.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Approval of the Resolution and Amendment #11 provides for continuation of Federal lobbyist services through February 12th, 2021, at a rate of \$85,500 per year. Funds for Federal lobbyist services are included in the FY20 adopted budget.