

**. To:** President and Members of the Munster Town Council

**From:** Patricia Abbott  
Controller

**Date:** July 7, 2025

**Re:** Interlocal Agreement: Pedestrian Bridges

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The Pedestrian Bridge Project, also referred to as Bridges Over Ditches, will construct pedestrian and bicycle bridges over Cady Marsh and Hart Ditches connecting Munster and Highland. Gariup Construction will be performing the work at a contract price of \$1,765,700.00. The project is funded through NIRPC at 80% with the local unit responsible for the remaining 20% which equals \$353,140.00. Council approved this at the June 2, 2025, meeting. Construction Inspection was awarded to SEH at the April 21, 2025, Council meeting at a cost not to exceed \$253,300.00. The project was budgeted in the 2024 GO Bond.

Staff has included the Town of Highland through its Park Department in the process, with the Highland Park Director serving on the selection committee for the construction inspection contract. At their June 19, 2025, meeting, the Highland Park Board approved an interlocal agreement to share in the costs and ongoing maintenance of the bridges.

The agreement has gone through legal review and must be approved with the same language as approved by Highland. The main points of the agreement are as follows.

- Munster will remain the lead agency for the project.
- Munster will be responsible for maintenance and/or replacement of the bridge over Hart Ditch.
- Highland will be responsible for maintenance and/or replacement of the bridge over Cady Marsh Ditch.
- Future maintenance and/or improvements to the path between the two bridges will be equally shared.
- Munster will invoice Highland for half of the 20% match of both the construction and the construction inspection costs.

**Recommendation:**

By motion and roll call vote, approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Highland Board of Parks and Recreation for the construction and maintenance of the Cady Marsh and Hart Ditches.