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November 21, 2024

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Emily Bush, AICP, CPM



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Mr. Darren Gray
County Manager
Seminole County
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Thank you again for your continued support and participation in the Best Foot Forward Pedestrian Safety Program this year. As a small nonprofit organization, we do our best to employ passionate people who are dedicated to our mission and programs while providing fair compensation and benefits. It is often difficult for a nonprofit to compete with larger firms and organizations with many more resources.

As such, each year Bike/Walk Central Florida evaluates its costs to determine salary increases, increases in expenditures and other subconsultants that work with us to support our programs and determine how those cost increases impact our program scopes. As we have noticed over the last few years, costs of doing business have increased and our organization is not immune to those increases.

MetroPlan Orlando has provided funding to support the Best Foot Forward program for over a decade, and due to their generous contributions to the program, the counties and cities have enjoyed significant cost savings to participate in the program. Unfortunately, MetroPlan Orlando does not wish to increase their contribution to help with these cost increases, therefore those costs are realized by our municipal partners.

Our staff and board provide cost effective programs that improve safety and provide a positive impact on the communities we serve while being good stewards of our program dollars. Seminole County used to commit \$60,000 annually to support the Best Foot Forward program (2021, 2022), and due to diligent program improvements Bike/Walk Central Florida was able to bring those costs down to \$52,020.25 in 2023. This year, our expenses have increased by \$5,000, or less than 5% of the total scope, but have not reached the amount required in 2022.

Please feel free to reach out to Executive Director Emily Bush by email at emily@bikewalkcf.org or by phone at 407-542-6074, ext. 701 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Emily Bush, AICP, CPM
Executive Director, Bike/Walk Central Florida

