



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

*Natural Resources
Department*

City Council Regular Meeting Date: April 1, 2025

To: City Council
From: Holly Milbrandt, Natural Resources Director
Date: March 31, 2025

SUBJECT: Approval of a proposal from Earth Tech Enterprises, Inc to recover approximately 8,500 cubic yards of over washed beach sand from the Clam Bayou area to restore a sand berm between the bayou and the Gulf.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2024, City Council approved contract DNR 24-007 with Earth Tech Enterprises, Inc to recover approximately 8,000 tons of over washed beach sand from the Clam Bayou area to restore a sand berm between the bayou and the Gulf. The over wash of sand was caused by Hurricane Idalia. In addition to State authorization under the FDEP Emergency Final Order, the full scope of proposed work (~8,000 cubic yards; to include dredging of over washed sand below mean high water) required federal permitting by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). However, since the USACE did not issue a permit in time for the work to be completed prior to the commencement of sea turtle nesting on May 1, the contractor completed a reduced scope of work to remain outside of the Corps' jurisdiction and only recovered sand within the bayou that was above mean high water (4,116 cubic yards).

Staff requested a quote from Eastman Aggregates to complete this work under a change order to Contract DNR24-005 for beach renourishment; however, Eastman declined to accept the change order because they did not have sufficient staff/resources to complete the work prior to sea turtle nesting season. Subsequently, the City requested a quote from Earth Tech Enterprises, the 2nd low bidder when the City bid the beach nourishment project. Earth Tech mobilized on April 23, 2024 and completed the reduced scope of work on April 26, 2024 with a total project cost of \$51,436.90 (funded by City's FDEP Beach Recovery grant). Contract DNR 24-007 with Earth Tech Enterprises was valid thru April 30, 2024.

Subsequently, during the summer of 2024, Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton had significant impacts on the area, again resulting in a large breach from the Gulf into the Bayou, over washing

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significant volumes of sand, impacting navigation within the Bayou, and flattening the recently completed berm/dune. After the storms, City staff reengaged with the Corps, and on March 7, 2025, received emergency authorization from USACE to dredge approximately 7,500 cubic yards of over wash material to restore navigation access in Clam Bayou and utilize the dredge material to close the shoreline breach and nourish approximately 1,500 to 2,000 linear feet of shoreline (between R112.5 and R114.5). State authorization has also been obtained from FDEP under the Emergency Final Order for Hurricanes Helene & Milton.

Although it may be valid to question if this is a winless battle with Mother Nature, this work will help to restore navigation to impacted property owners and provide at least some interim protection for adjacent residents prior to the 2025 hurricane season. At this time, given that the City has the necessary State and Federal permits/authorizations and available funding in the City's FDEP Beach Recovery grant, it is the recommendation of staff and project engineer that we proceed with this effort.

In lieu of the short timeframe to undergo standard procurement and complete the work before sea turtle nesting season, staff is seeking Council approval of proposal for a new scope of work from Earth Tech Enterprises, Inc. to complete the 2025 "Sanibel Island Clam Bayou Dune Recovery Project", subject to the construction plans prepared by Humiston & Moore Engineering, dated 3/25/2025. As described above, similar work was previously bid competitively and the Contractor already has knowledge of the site conditions. Earth Tech Enterprises, Inc agrees to perform the new scope of work under the same conditions and obligations of City of Sanibel Agreement DNR 24-007 and utilizing the same unit costs as the previous contract, for a proposed project cost of \$83,950.00. The City will also incur costs for daily shorebird (April 1-April 30) and sea turtle monitoring (April 15-April 30) to be conducted by SCCF. The approximate cost of these surveys is less than \$10,000, depending on the actual number of days surveying is required. All costs are eligible expenses under the City's FDEP Beach Recovery Grant.

If approved by Council, work will commence on or after April 3, 2025 and be completed on or before April 30, 2025. Work may occur during the normal hours of construction, Monday through Saturday, 7:00AM to 5:00PM. The project is estimated to be completed in 10 workdays. Equipment will access the beach from City property on the south side of the road protection project (seawall) at Santiva, with staging and contractor parking at 3345 Sanibel Captiva Road (formerly Castaways).

FUNDING SOURCE:

FDEP Grant Agreement 23LE5-A1 in the amount of \$26,973,000 for the City of Sanibel 2022 Hurricane Ian and Nicole Beach Recovery Project. The grant agreement was approved by City Council on 11/7/2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion to approve the proposal from Earth Tech Enterprises, Inc in the amount of \$83,950.00 to recover approximately 8,500 tons of over washed beach sand from the Clam Bayou area to restore a sand berm between the bayou and the Gulf, subject to the City Attorney's approval of contract's final form.

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