



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

*Natural Resources
Department*

City Council Regular Meeting Date: September 8, 2025

To: City Council
From: Holly Milbrandt, Natural Resources Director
Rachel Rainbolt, Conservation Officer
Date: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Request for Proposal Results for Exotic Vegetation Removal and Land Management Field Crew

BACKGROUND: Since the late 1990's, the Natural Resources Department has managed a contractual field crew for exotic plant control and land management activities such as fireline maintenance, gopher tortoise habitat restoration, and beach dune protection on City conservation lands. In March of 2025, the City's existing agreement with long-time contractor Claudio Herrero of Ferrier Enterprises ended and Mr. Herrero informed staff of his retirement.

Consequently, on July 21, 2025 the City's Natural Resources Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for "Herbicide treatment and manual removal of Brazilian pepper and other exotic vegetation and/or invasive vegetation and additional land management work by a field crew at multiple properties on Sanibel Island." The advertisement was posted locally and on DemandStar. The mandatory pre-bid meeting was scheduled for July 31, 2025, at 11:00am, where four companies were in attendance. Of those companies, one submitted a sealed bid for the project.

The City accepted bids from the conclusion of the pre-bid meeting up until August 21, 2025, at 2:30pm. Shortly after the advertised due date, the following staff were present to open the sealed bid: Holly Milbrandt, Director of Natural Resources, Rachel Rainbolt, Conservation Officer, and Brett Schira, Procurement Manager.

BID RESULTS:

Bid Number:	Contractor Name / Address*	Bid Price (per hour)
1.	Earth Tech Environmental, LLC. 10600 Jolea Avenue Bonita Springs, FL 34135	Field Crew Leader: \$155.00 Field Crew Worker: \$115.00

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

FUNDING SOURCE:

Funding is included in the draft FY26 budget. This includes \$170,000 in the Natural Resources General Fund and an additional \$60,000 in the Natural Resources-Beach Parking fund. The latter is part of the City's annual TDC request and may only be used for habitat management activities at the City's beach parks.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion to approve the lowest qualified proposal price and authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Earth Tech Environmental, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$230,000.