



## LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Suzanne Sherman, City Manager

**THRU:** Thomas Marinelli, Acting Utilities Director

**DATE:** May 16, 2024

**RE:** Consideration of fund appropriation for Task Order 24-07-IS with Infrastructure Solution Services for Septic to Sewer Project Plan Funding Advocacy (\$128,200).

### **SUMMARY:**

The Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Protection Program is a program designed to address excess nitrogen and pollution to the IRL (Section 373.469, F.S). The IRL protection program requires any commercial or residential property with an existing onsite sewage treatment disposal system (OSTDS) located within the IRL Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) to connect to central sewer if available, or upgrade to nutrient reducing system by July 1, 2030. The goal is to improve the water quality, health, and economic value of the IRL by reducing the pollutants and nutrients that are impacting the IRL.

At the January 18, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, Infrastructure Solution Services presented a summary of the City's OSTDS Remediation Plan, noting the number of existing OSTDS in Palm Bay (27,780) to be upgraded, and the costs associated with upgrading existing OSTDS and utility plant upgrades (\$665M+). The draft Plan was due to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) by February 1, 2024. The City sought and received a one-month extension, and the draft Plan was submitted to FDEP on February 29, 2024. The City received feedback from FDEP on the draft Plan on April 24, 2024 for further edits. The City's complete and final OSTDS Remediation plan is due August 1, 2024.

The final Remediation Plan will identify projects that will help in achieving the goals of the IRL Protection Program, to include funding sources. The City will be pursuing septic-to-sewer projects to address the presence of septic tanks located within the IRL BMAP area. The projects are expected to require a significant investment from the City. Infrastructure Solution Services (ISS) will be an advocate for the City in obtaining funding for the projects, to include grant opportunities.

Infrastructure Solution Services has submitted Task Order 24-07-IS for Septic to Sewer Project

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Plan Funding Advocacy under the existing Master Contract 36-0-2020/JG. Staff has reviewed the scope of work and requests Council approval for fund appropriation to proceed with Task Order 24-07-IS in the amount of \$128,200.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 287.055, Florida Statutes for Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA), the Procurement Department solicited and accepted qualification submittals, under RFQ 36-0-2020/JG, from firms to provide continuing consulting services for water and wastewater engineering services for the Utilities Department. On July 2, 2020, Council approved the award of RFQ 36-0-2020/JG to two firms (ISS and Wade Trim) and authorized City staff to negotiate Master Consultant Agreements. On August 7, 2020, a Master Agreement was executed with ISS. Task Order 24-07-IS is in accordance with the Master Agreement.

The Utilities Department is requesting fund appropriation from Utilities Undesignated Fund Balance in the amount of \$128,200 to proceed with Task Order 24-07-IS.

**REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS:**

Utilities; Finance; Procurement

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Pending approval, staff will prepare a budget amendment allocating \$128,200 from Utilities Undesignated Fund Balance (421-0000-392-3006) to Utilities Fund Professional Services/Engineering Services, account 421-8013-536-3121.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Motion to 1) approve appropriation of funds on the next scheduled budget amendment, amount \$128,200; and 2) authorize the execution of Infrastructure Solution Services, Task Order 24-07-IS, for Septic to Sewer Project Plan Funding Advocacy, against Master Agreement 36-0-2020.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Task Order 24-07-IS