

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(P)(2)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 18, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing additional time of five years and expenditure authority up to \$6,680,000.00 for a total modified cumulative pool amount of \$13,754,000.00 for Prequalification Pool No. RTQ-01354, invasive vegetation control services, for multiple County departments; provided that any contract award under the prequalification pool exceeding \$5,000,000.00 is ratified by the Board

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Strategic Procurement Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw


MDC001

Memorandum



Date: February 18, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: Request for Additional Time and Expenditure Authority to Prequalification Pool for Invasive Vegetation Control Services

Executive Summary

This item is for additional time and expenditure authority to allow multiple County departments to purchase invasive vegetation control services via spot market competitions based on their operational needs. The services under the pool assist the user departments with reducing and/or eradicating invasive vegetation that outcompetes native species for available resources, transform the ecosystems used by native plants and animals, and may ultimately lead to the extinction of those native species. The Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) has the largest allocation amongst the four user departments, due to their increased need for the removal of invasive vegetation from lands managed under the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program, as described in Section 24-50 of the Miami-Dade County Code, as well as for other environmental projects funded by grants or permit fees. The removal of invasive vegetation from the County lands, especially those managed under the EEL Program, which has been in existence for over 30 years, is essential to the preservation, restoration, and protection of vulnerable, environmentally endangered lands. These areas contain native, rare, or endangered flora and fauna or serve as integral components of existing ecosystems, ensuring ecological health for the benefit of the County's present and future generations. All requested allocations have designated sources of funding.

Departments have confirmed that the pool is meeting their needs, and there is healthy participation from the prequalified vendors. The pool requirements have not changed, and it is further anticipated that if the pool was resolicited, the same vendors would prequalify. Additionally, due diligence was performed on all prequalified vendors, and no issues were identified. As this is an open pool, market research and outreach were conducted to identify additional vendors via INFORMS and DemandStar notices; two additional vendors responded. This extension will allow existing prequalified vendors to remain in the pool provided they continue to meet the requirements, resulting in greater efficiency for both existing vendors and the County due to a reduction in administrative work. Continuing with the current pool will allow existing vendors to focus on accessing bid opportunities, as opposed to repeating prequalification documentation. This pool will remain open and additional qualified vendors may be added at any time. To encourage participation, outreach events are held on an ongoing basis to inform vendors about pool opportunities and the benefits of becoming prequalified. Therefore, a five-year extension is being requested to take advantage of on-going efforts and efficiencies built under the existing pool, ensuring continued growth and effectiveness. Extension of the pool will continue to streamline processes and reduce time to procure these goods and services, saving the County time and money and reducing administrative barriers for our vendors.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve extending *Prequalification Pool No. RTQ-01354, Invasive Vegetation Control Services*, for five years and \$6,680,000 in additional expenditure authority for multiple County departments, in support of their operational needs. An extension to the current pool is recommended to allow departments to continue to competitively solicit invasive vegetation control services for the preservation, restoration, and protection of vulnerable,

environmentally endangered lands, and the native ecosystem. Currently, there are seven prequalified vendors within the pool, two of which have local addresses, including one certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE) firm.

Background

The pool was established under delegated authority on December 1, 2020 in the amount of \$795,000 for a five-year term. The pool was subsequently modified under delegated authority and by the Board for additional expenditure authority. The removal of invasive vegetation from County lands is essential to the preservation, restoration, and protection of vulnerable, environmentally endangered lands and native ecosystems. Miami-Dade County is currently home to hundreds of invasive species that threaten native plants and animals and degrade the overall quality of life. Globally, invasive species are among the leading causes of species endangerment and extinction. In South Florida, they complicate and slow the restoration of the Everglades ecosystem. Removing invasive species that consume large amounts of natural resources benefits the native ecosystem and helps prevent the extinction of native species.

The requested increase in expenditure authority is based on the departments' projected operational needs over the next five years and will be allocated as follows:

- DERM, the primary user of this pool, is requesting \$6,100,000 to continue acquiring invasive vegetation control services for lands managed under the EEL Program, as outlined in Section 24-50 of the Miami-Dade County Code, as well as other environmental projects funded by grants and permit fees. These efforts, particularly in the case of EEL-managed properties, address deferred maintenance and help mitigate the negative impacts that threaten native species survival.
- The Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) is requesting \$400,000 to continue invasive vegetation control efforts at its facilities, as required by federal, state, and local permits. Certain portions of DSWM lands are also subject to Conservation Easements, which mandate that these properties be maintained in their natural state in perpetuity, including controlling exotic species.
- The Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) is requesting \$180,000 to continue invasive vegetation removal services at DTPW facilities. These services are essential to the ongoing grounds maintenance of the Miami-Dade Metrorail tracks, guideways, and other transit locations.

Scope

The impact of this item is countywide in nature.

Delegated Authority

There is no additional delegation of authority sought in this item as the authority to solicit pricing and award contracts up to an aggregate amount of the allocation authorized by the Board, exercise all provisions of the solicitation documents and any resulting contracts pursuant to Section 2-8.1 of the County Code and Implementing Order 3-38, and add vendors to the pool at any time, subject to ratification by the Board on a bi-annual basis, was granted when the pool was established. Any contract award under the prequalification pool exceeding \$5,000,000 is subject to ratification by the Board.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The pool term expires on February 28, 2026, and has a current cumulative allocation of \$7,427,700. If this request is approved, the pool will have a modified cumulative allocation of \$14,107,700 and will expire on February 28, 2031. The requested allocation is based on historical use of the pool and the departments' anticipated needs throughout the current and extended term. DERM/RER has experienced an uptick in invasive removal needs and is projecting that additional allocation will be needed to complete related environmental work through the subsequent five-year pool extension.

Dept	Existing Cumulative Allocation	Additional Allocation Requested	Modified Cumulative Allocation	Funding Source	Budgeted	Pool Manager
DSWM	\$368,550	\$400,000	\$768,550	Proprietary Funds	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget Volume 3, Page 49, Contractual Services	Karina Careaga
DTPW	\$189,000	\$180,000	\$369,000	DTPW Operating	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget & Multi-Year Capital Plan, Volume 2, Transportation and Public Works page 128, Other Operating	Alonzo Joseph
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	\$383,250	\$0	\$383,250	General Fund	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget, Volume 1, Page 219, Invasive Vegetation Control	Bernie Rodriguez
DERM	\$6,486,900	\$6,100,000	\$12,586,900	Proprietary Funds / Miami Rescue Plan / Trust Funds / State Grant Funds / General Fund*	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget, Contractual Services under EEL Management Fund (G2002), Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust (TF298), Tree Trust (TF110), and State Grants (CO026). <i>*General Fund only to be used if the other funding sources are not available.</i>	Joel Arango, Jr.
Total	\$7,427,700	\$6,680,000	\$14,107,700			

Track Record/Monitor

Manuel Jimenez of the Strategic Procurement Department (SPD) is the Procurement Contracting Manager.

Prequalified Vendors

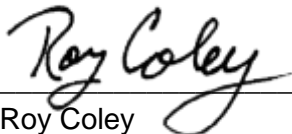
Vendor	Principal Address	Local Address	Principal
Aquatic Vegetation Control, Inc.	1860 W 10 Street Riviera Beach, FL	957 NW 3 Avenue Florida City, FL	Sharon Lee Gillenwalters
EarthBalance Corporation	2570 Commerce Parkway North Port, FL	None	Sarah J. Laroque
Environmental Quality Inc.	938 N Old Dixie Highway Jupiter, FL	None	Katharine S. Murray
Kissimmee Valley Forester, Inc.	660 Rainbow Boulevard Babson Park, FL	None	Sam M. Van Hook
Milborne, LLC (SBE)	318 Poinciana Island Drive Sunny Isles Beach, FL	Same	Katherine L. Kempner
The Institute for Regional Conservation, Inc.	100 E Linton Boulevard Suite 302B Delray Beach, FL	None	George D. Gann
Weedoo Greenboat Inc.	8020 Belvedere Road Suite 1 West Palm Beach, FL	None	Tara Lordi

Due Diligence

Pursuant to Resolution No. R-187-12, due diligence was conducted in accordance with SPD's Procurement Guidelines to determine contractor responsibility, including verifying corporate status and review of performance and compliance issues through various vendor responsibility lists and a keyword internet search. The lists referenced include convicted vendors, debarred vendors, delinquent contractors, suspended vendors, and federal excluded parties. The review revealed that two vendors, Aquatic Vegetation Control, Inc. and EarthBalance Corporation, had histories of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) complaints; however, both vendors worked with OSHA to resolve all complaints, and both cases are now closed. None of the aforementioned complaints for the two vendors adversely impact the County's pool and there were no additional adverse findings relating to vendor responsibility.

Applicability of Ordinances and Contract Measures

- The User Access Program provision applies where permitted by funding source.
- SBE measures and Local Preference will be applied at the time of spot market competition where permitted by the funding source.
- The Living Wage Ordinance applies.



Roy Coley

Chief Utilities and Regulatory Services Officer



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 18, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(P)(2)

Please note any items checked.

- “3-Day Rule” for committees applicable if raised**
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
- Budget required**
- Statement of fiscal impact required**
- Statement of social equity required**
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor’s report for public hearing**
- No committee review**
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3’s present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5’s ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) ____) to approve**
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 8(P)(2)
2-18-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL TIME OF FIVE YEARS AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY UP TO \$6,680,000.00 FOR A TOTAL MODIFIED CUMULATIVE POOL AMOUNT OF \$13,754,000.00 FOR PREQUALIFICATION POOL NO. RTQ-01354, INVASIVE VEGETATION CONTROL SERVICES, FOR MULTIPLE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS; PROVIDED THAT ANY CONTRACT AWARD UNDER THE PREQUALIFICATION POOL EXCEEDING \$5,000,000.00 IS RATIFIED BY THE BOARD

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board authorizes additional time of five years and expenditure authority up to \$6,680,000.00 for a total modified cumulative pool amount of \$13,754,000.00 for Prequalification Pool No. RTQ-01354, Invasive Vegetation Control Services, for multiple County departments; provided that any contract award under the prequalification pool exceeding \$5,000,000.00 is ratified by the Board. A copy of the pool documents is on file with and available upon request from the Strategic Procurement Department.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman
Marleine Bastien
Sen. René García
Roberto J. Gonzalez
Danielle Cohen Higgins
Natalie Milian Orbis
Micky Steinberg
Juan Carlos Bermudez
Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Keon Hardemon
Vicki L. Lopez
Raquel A. Regalado

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of February, 2026. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Eduardo W. Gonzalez