

Memorandum



Date: October 20, 2026

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

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Recommendation for Ratification of *Contract No. E-10618* for Emergency
Streetlighting Maintenance and Repairs

Agenda Item No. 8(N)(2)

Executive Summary

This item ratifies an emergency contract award for the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) needed to address critical streetlight maintenance and repair needs across Miami-Dade County. On June 30, 2025, the County terminated its streetlighting maintenance contract, *RFP-00499, LED Smart Lighting and Smart County Systems*, due to vendor performance issues inclusive of non-compliance with maintenance requirements and default for non-payment to subcontractors. At the time of the termination, the streetlighting system was operating at 83%, with more than 4,800 outages across the network. This performance fell below the County standards, which require maintaining at least 95% functionality for streetlights.

The Administration's decision to terminate the prior contract followed ongoing performance concerns and was informed by, and consistent with, discussions held at the Policy Council on February 10, 2025 and March 10, 2025. During these meetings, Council members expressed concern regarding prolonged outages, public safety impacts and the prior vendor's inability to meet contractual obligations and emphasized the need for timely corrective action. These discussions underscored the urgency of addressing the prior vendor's deficiencies. Following the prior vendor's failure to cure deficiencies, the Administration determined that termination of the contract was necessary to protect public safety and ensure reliable streetlighting service. This action, in turn, necessitated the issuance of an emergency procurement to restore system functionality.

On July 15, 2025, DTPW issued an emergency declaration in response to system failures impacting public safety, including outages, pole knockdowns, wire theft, and underground damage. A survey conducted that month showed system performance had fallen to 79%, with over 1,100 additional outages reported. To immediately address these urgent issues, DTPW executed the Emergency Streetlight Maintenance and Repair contract with Horsepower Electric, Inc (Horsepower). The scope of work includes:

- Daily maintenance of approximately 28,300 streetlights on County and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) roads
- Repair of a backlog of 350 missing light poles and 220 underground damaged locations
- Replacement of stolen wiring with aluminum wiring
- Power service upgrades, replacements, or relocations at 100 sites
- Ongoing response to safety-related issues reported by County staff

The term of the emergency is two years. During this period, DTPW will continue emergency repairs while preparing to competitively procure new long-term streetlight maintenance contracts. Since the inception of this emergency contract, Horsepower has restored 3,407 streetlights, 317 streetlight poles, replaced over 150,000 linear feet of stolen wires, and repaired 304 locations of underground damage. Horsepower has restored the lighting system to 96.2% operating level excluding outages caused by ongoing construction projects and FPL outages.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) ratify an emergency contract award, *Contract No. E-10618, Emergency Streetlighting Maintenance and Repairs*, to Horsepower Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$29,413,367.84 for DTPW.

Scope

The scope of this item is countywide in nature.

Delegation of Authority

The County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee will have the authority to exercise all provisions of the contract, including any extension or cancellation provisions, pursuant to Section 2-8.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County and Implementing Order No. 3-38.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The fiscal impact for this ratification is \$29,413,367.84 for the two-year term, which expires on July 15, 2027. Streetlighting maintenance is funded by DTPW's General Fund allocation, Secondary Gas Tax, and reimbursement from the FDOT pursuant to the executed State Highway Lighting, Maintenance and Compensation Agreement (Contract ASO05, Financial No. 447850-1-78-01).

Program Name / Program Number	Adopted Budget	Funding Source
Safety Improvements Countywide - 2000000541	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget & Multi-Year Capital Plan, Volume 2, Page 159	FDOT Reimbursement Secondary Gas Tax
Other Operating	FY 25-26 Adopted Budget & Multi-Year Capital Plan, Volume 2, Page 132	General Fund

Track Record/Monitor

Frank Aira, P.E., Chief Operations and Maintenance Officer, is responsible for monitoring this project.

Vendor Recommended for Ratification

Vendor Name	Principal Address	Local Address	Number of Employee Residents*	Principal
			1) Miami-Dade County 2) Percentage (%)	
Horsepower Electric, Inc.	8105 W 20 Ave Hialeah, Florida 33014	8105 W 20 Ave Hialeah, Florida 33014	84	Rodolfo Nunez, Esq.
			1) 67 2) 79.76 %	

*Pursuant to Resolution No. R-1011-15, the percentage of employee residents is the percentage of the vendor's employees who reside in the County as compared to the vendor's total workforce.

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 that there are no performance and compliance issues. The lists that were referenced included: convicted vendors, debarred vendors, delinquent contractors, suspended vendors, and federal excluded parties. There were no adverse findings relating to vendor responsibility.

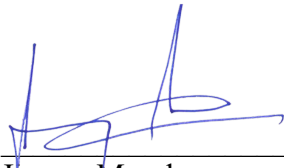
Background

The emergency declaration for streetlight maintenance followed the termination of *RFP-00499, LED Smart Lighting and Smart County Systems*, which was awarded via Resolution No. R-1029-21 for a 15-year term to Miami Dade Smart Lighting Partners, LLC (MDSLP). On June 30, 2025, the County terminated the contract due to performance issues inclusive of non-compliance with maintenance requirements and default for non-payment to subcontractors.

At the time of the termination, the streetlighting system was only operating at 83%, with more than 4,800 streetlight outages across the network. This performance fell below the County standards, which require maintaining at least 95% functionality, responding to pole knockdowns within two hours, addressing missing poles, permanently repairing underground damages, and restoring stolen copper wire.

The termination of the MDSLP agreement created an immediate gap in critical system maintenance, necessitating the emergency procurement of a new contract to restore safety and reliability across the County's streetlight network. On July 15, 2025, DTPW issued an emergency declaration in response to significant system failures impacting public safety, including widespread outages, pole knockdowns, wire theft, and underground damage.

Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy Morales', is written over a horizontal line.

Jimmy Morales
Chief Operating Officer



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

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

DATE: October 20, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(N)(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
- ☐ Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) ____) 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(N)(2)
10-20-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION RATIFYING CONTRACT NO. E-10618 FOR EMERGENCY STREETLIGHTING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM IN A CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF \$29,413,367.84 TO HORSEPOWER ELECTRIC, INC.; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE ALL PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACT, INCLUDING ANY CANCELLATION OR EXTENSION PROVISIONS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE COUNTY CODE AND IMPLEMENTING ORDER 3-38

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 finds it in the best interest of Miami-Dade County to ratify *Contract No. E-10618* for Emergency Streetlighting Maintenance and Repairs for the Department of Transportation and Public Works for a two-year term in a cumulative amount of \$29,413,367.84 to Horsepower Electric, Inc.; and authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to exercise all provisions of the contract, including any cancellation or extension provisions, pursuant to section 2-8.1 of the County Code and Implementing Order 3-38. A complete set of contract documents are on file and available upon request from the Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works, Contracts & Procurement Division.

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	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

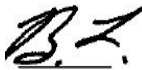
The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of October, 2026. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override 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.



Bruce Libhaber