MEMORANDUM

IITC
Agenda Item No. 3(U)

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

DATE: November 12, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving award of Contract no. ITB0000026 for Hauling and Disposal of Dewatered Biosolids, Groups 1(A) and 1(B), to CompostUSA of Highlands County, LLC in the amount of $92,625,000.00 and $55,575,000.00, respectively, for an initial term of five years and one, five-year option to renew, for a total cumulative amount of $148,200,000.00 for the Water and Sewer Department; and authorizing the County Mayor to give notice of this award to the recommended vendor, issue the appropriate purchase orders, and exercise all provisions of the contracts, including the one, five-year option to renew and any cancellation or extensions, pursuant to Section 3-1 of the Code and master Procurement Implementing Order 3-38

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Strategic Procurement Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Infrastructure, Innovation and Technology Committee.

for
Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/wm

Memorandum

Date: January 20, 2027

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

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

Subject: Recommendation to Award Contracts for Groups 1(A) and 1(B) for Hauling and Disposal of Dewatered Biosolids

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Executive Summary

This item seeks approval from the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") to award *Contract No. ITB0000026, Hauling and Disposal of Dewatered Biosolids*, Groups 1(A) and 1(B), to CompostUSA of Highlands County, LLC ("CompostUSA"), the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for both groups, for a five-year term with one, five-year option to renew ("OTR"). CompostUSA is the incumbent vendor currently providing biosolids hauling and disposal services to the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department ("WASD"). The replacement contracts will provide for the hauling and disposal of Class B and Non-Class B biosolids produced at WASD's Central District Wastewater Treatment Plant ("CDWWTP") on Virginia Key and North District Wastewater Treatment Plant ("NDWWTP") at Interama.

This solicitation is the re-advertisement of the biosolids services previously solicited under Group 1 of *Solicitation No. EVN0037379*, for which all bids were rejected by the Board pursuant to Resolution No. R-493-26 following significant changes to Florida Statutes and regulatory requirements governing biosolids management that affected disposal capacity and pricing in the marketplace. The services were subsequently re-advertised under *ITB0000026*, with the previous Group 1 restructured into Groups 1(A) and 1(B) to enhance competition and operational flexibility, as well as promote more competitive pricing.

Prompt and continuous removal of biosolids is critical to WASD's wastewater treatment operations. Failure to maintain adequate hauling and disposal capacity could result in the accumulation of biosolids at the treatment plants, potentially affecting plant operations and compliance with operating permits issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("FDEP"). The replacement contracts will provide WASD with the hauling and disposal capacity necessary to support uninterrupted wastewater treatment operations and compliance with applicable federal, state, and local environmental requirements.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board approve competitive contract awards, *Contract No. ITB0000026, Hauling and Disposal of Dewatered Biosolids*, Groups 1(A) and 1(B), to CompostUSA in the following amounts: $92,625,000 for Group 1(A) and $55,575,000 for Group 1(B), for a total cumulative amount of $148,200,000 for a five-year term and one, five-year OTR for WASD. These contracts will replace *Contract No. BW-10481*, which was approved by the Board via Resolution No. R-831-24.

Background

Biosolids are produced daily as a continuous byproduct of the wastewater treatment process and must be timely removed from WASD's wastewater treatment facilities for beneficial use or disposal in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including Chapter 62-640, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). With CDWWTP and NDWWTP generating approximately 200 to 400 wet tons of biosolids daily, timely hauling and disposal are critical to maintaining wastewater treatment operations, regulatory compliance, and adequate onsite storage capacity. The County currently obtains hauling and disposal services for Class B biosolids under *Contract No. BW-10481*, awarded to CompostUSA by the Board through Resolution No. R-831-24. The Board subsequently approved the one-year OTR through Resolution No. R-764-25. CompostUSA currently provides hauling and disposal services for approximately 300 wet tons of biosolids per workday from WASD's wastewater

treatment facilities through composting and other legally permitted disposal methods. These services support WASD's compliance with operating permits issued by FDEP and help prevent the accumulation of biosolids at the treatment plants.

Following the Board's rejection of Group 1 under *Solicitation No. EVN0037379* pursuant to Resolution No. R-493-26, WASD and the Strategic Procurement Department (SPD) reassessed the County's operational requirements and conducted industry outreach regarding disposal methods, capacity, pricing, and market conditions. The resulting solicitation, *ITB0000026*, incorporates revisions developed following industry outreach and the County's reassessment of operational and market conditions. An Invitation to Bid was issued under full and open competition on July 1, 2026. Upon advertisement, 520 vendors were notified. Outreach efforts included vendors identified through market research, as well as the incumbent vendor, CompostUSA. Market research revealed a limited number of local vendors and certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE) firms capable of providing the required services in accordance with the solicitation specifications. On the closing date of July 23, 2026, the County received eight bids; none were from local firms.

Under *ITB0000026*, the biosolids services were divided into two groups: Group 1(A), for the hauling and disposal of Class B and Non-Class B biosolids generated at CDWWTP and NDWWTP, at approximately six to 10 loads per day; and Group 1(B) for the same services at approximately four to six loads per day. Both groups allow hauling and disposal of biosolids by any legal and County-approved method. CompostUSA is recommended for award of both groups as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for each group in accordance with the solicitation's method of award.

As part of its bid, CompostUSA demonstrated substantial permitted processing capacity and operational redundancy through multiple FDEP-permitted biosolids management facilities in Florida and committed sufficient processing and hauling capacity to meet the requirements of both groups. CompostUSA also has experience providing these services to WASD under existing and prior County contracts, which will support continuity of operations and reduce transition risk. CompostUSA's bid identifies multiple Florida facilities with approximately 4,455 wet tons per day of current permitted capacity and the ability to divert loads among facilities if a facility is impacted. Its bid also commits processing and hauling capacity of at least 16 and up to 20 loads per day for the contracts.

The contracts require CompostUSA to maintain sufficient permitted capacity throughout the contract term. Changes in applicable laws, regulations, permit conditions, or regulatory interpretations affecting an approved disposal methodology do not relieve CompostUSA of its obligation to provide continuous and compliant biosolids hauling and disposal services. If an approved disposal methodology becomes restricted, limited, or unavailable, CompostUSA must secure an alternative FDEP-approved disposal method or facility and implement the alternative without interruption of service. As an additional performance safeguard, CompostUSA is required to furnish a performance bond equal to 100 percent of the annual contract value, which will provide additional protection to the County in the event of a failure to perform. Accordingly, award of both groups to CompostUSA provides the County with the lowest-priced responsive and responsible bidder, who has a demonstrated record of permitted capacity and redundancy, while providing continuity of these critical biosolids hauling and disposal services.

Scope

The scope of this item is countywide in nature.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The fiscal impact for the initial five-year term is $69,160,000 [$43,225,000 for Group 1(A) and $25,935,000 for Group 1(B)]. Should the County choose to exercise, at its sole discretion, the one, five-year OTR, the estimated cumulative value for the entire 10-year term will be $148,200,000 [$92,625,000 for Group 1(A) and $55,575,000 for Group 1(B)]. The annualized allocation under the proposed contract is higher than under the current contract due to increases in unit pricing for biosolids hauling and disposal

services. The current contract was established through a bid waiver, which allowed the County to negotiate pricing based on the market conditions and available disposal capacity at that time. The current unit price is $102.00 per wet ton, compared with $133.00 per wet ton under the proposed contracts for the initial term.

Bidders submitted separate base pricing for the initial five-year term and the five-year OTR period. CompostUSA's base unit price is $133.00 per wet ton for the initial term and $152.00 per wet ton for the OTR period. The initial contract prices will remain fixed for a minimum of 12 months from the solicitation end date and may thereafter be adjusted upward or downward during the contract term in accordance with the economic price adjustment provisions of the contracts. If the OTR is exercised, the submitted OTR base pricing will become the starting pricing for the renewal period; however, if the final-year pricing exceeds the submitted OTR pricing solely due to approved economic price adjustments, the County may, at its sole discretion, continue the adjusted pricing into the OTR period. The contracts also provide for a temporary fuel surcharge if the applicable U.S. Energy Information Administration Lower Atlantic (PADD1C) diesel fuel price exceeds $5.50 per gallon for 30 consecutive days. The increase reflects higher costs associated with transportation, fuel, labor, disposal capacity, and other market and regulatory conditions affecting biosolids hauling and disposal services. Recent pricing for comparable biosolids hauling and disposal services in Florida and under other County contracts ranges from approximately $157.27 to $185.36 per wet ton and may also be subject to contractual price adjustments.

Department	Allocation	Funding Source	Budgeted*
WASD	$148,200,000	Proprietary Funds	FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget, Volume 3, Page 100, Other Operating
Total	**$148,200,000**		

*The FY 2026-27 Proposed Budget was not yet released at the time this item was drafted.

Track Record/Monitor
Manuel Jimenez of SPD is the Procurement Contracting Manager.

Delegated Authority
If this item is approved, the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee will have the authority to give notice of this award to the recommended vendor, issue the appropriate purchase orders, and exercise all provisions of the contracts, including the one five-year OTR and any cancellation or extensions, pursuant to Section 3-1 of the County Code and Master Procurement Implementing Order 3-38.

Vendor Recommended for Award
Pursuant to Resolution No. R-477-18, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for both Group 1(A) and Group 1(B) has been recommended for award in accordance with the method of award identified in the solicitation and is non-local. One local SBE firm under the selected commodity code was identified and notified; however, no local or SBE firms responded to the solicitation due to the expertise, regulatory requirements, specialized facilities and equipment required to provide the requested services.

Vendor	Principal Address	Local Address	Number of Employee Residents 1) Miami-Dade 2) Percentage*	Principal
CompostUSA of Highlands County, LLC	130 S Main Street Winter Garden, FL	None	**0** **0%**	Kris Creeden

*Provided pursuant to Resolution No. R-1011-15. Percentage of employee residents is the percentage of vendor's employees who reside in Miami-Dade County as compared to the vendor's total workforce.

Vendors Not Recommended for Award

Vendor	Local Address	Reason for Not Recommending
Appalachian Material Service, Inc.	No	Higher than the lowest bid.
Environmental Protection & Improvement Company (EPIC)	No	
H & H Liquid Sludge Disposal, Inc.	No	
Merrell Bros, Inc.	No	
Southern Logistics, Inc.	No	
Synagro South, LLC	No	
US Submergent Technologies, LLC	No	

Due Diligence

Pursuant to Resolution No. R-187-12, due diligence was conducted in accordance with SPD's Procurement Guidelines to determine vendor responsibility, including verifying corporate status and that there are no performance and compliance issues through various vendor responsibility lists and a keyword internet search. 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.

Pursuant to Resolution No. R-252-25, efforts were made to identify any potential piggybacking opportunities prior to issuance of a competitive solicitation. No contracts were identified for accessing.

Applicability of Ordinances and Contract Measures

- The two percent User Access Program applies.
- The SBE Bid Preference and Local Preference applied.
- The Living Wage Ordinance does not apply.

Roy Coley
Deputy Mayor

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: January 20, 2027

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No.

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 Agenda Item No.
Veto _____
Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. ITB0000026 FOR HAULING AND DISPOSAL OF DEWATERED BIOSOLIDS, GROUPS 1(A) AND 1(B), TO COMPOSTUSA OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF $92,625,000.00 AND $55,575,000.00, RESPECTIVELY, FOR AN INITIAL TERM OF FIVE YEARS AND ONE, FIVE-YEAR OPTION TO RENEW, FOR A TOTAL CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF $148,200,000.00 FOR THE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO GIVE NOTICE OF THIS AWARD TO THE RECOMMENDED VENDOR, ISSUE THE APPROPRIATE PURCHASE ORDERS, AND EXERCISE ALL PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACTS, INCLUDING THE ONE, FIVE-YEAR OPTION TO RENEW AND ANY CANCELLATION OR EXTENSIONS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND MASTER PROCUREMENT 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:

Section 1. This Board approves award of Contract No. ITB0000026 for Hauling and Disposal of Dewatered Biosolids, Groups 1(A) and 1(B), to CompostUSA of Highlands County, LLC in the amount of $92,625,000.00 and $55,575,000.00, respectively, for an initial term of five years and one, five-year option to renew, for a total cumulative amount of $148,200,000.00 for the Water and Sewer Department.

Section 2. This Board authorizes the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to give notice of this award to the recommended vendor, issue the appropriate purchase orders, and exercise all provisions of the contracts, including the one, five-year option to renew and any cancellation or extensions, pursuant to Section 3-1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida and Master Procurement Implementing Order 3-38. A copy of the contracts are 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	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 January, 2027. 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. SED

Sarah E. Davis