

**OFFICIAL FILE COPY
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Memorandum



Date: July 6, 2023

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Agenda Item No. 8(P)(19)

Resolution No. R-635-23

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

Summary

This item is requesting additional expenditure authority to allow the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER) to continue purchasing invasive vegetation control services via spot market competitions based on multi-year operational needs. The services under the pool assist multiple County 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.

RER requires these services for the removal of invasive plants on the properties in the Environmental Endangered Land (EEL) Program, as described under Section 24-50 of the Miami-Dade County Code. RER did not have an allocation when the pool was established, and since inception, Miami-Dade Rescue Plan funding of \$24 million has been made available as part of the adoption of the FY2022-23 Adopted Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan in addition to the receipt of a grant for the restoration of habitat located at Matheson Hammock, whereby there is a programmed expense of \$2 million for this type of services. The Miami-Dade Rescue Plan funding, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant funds, and other eligible proprietary sources are supporting EEL's invasive vegetation removal work. RER is consistently seeking grant funding and other eligible local funding sources to maximize its EEL initiatives, including invasive vegetation removal.

The removal of invasive vegetation from the lands under the EEL Program, which has been in existence for over 30 years, is required for the preservation, restoration, and protection of vulnerable, environmentally endangered lands, which contain native, rare, or endangered flora and fauna, or that functions as part of an existing ecosystem, for the benefit of the County's present and future generations.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) authorize additional expenditure authority of \$6,074,000 to Prequalification Pool No. *RTQ-01354, Invasive Vegetation Control Services*, for RER. The department's request is based on its anticipated operational needs for the removal of invasive plants on the properties under the EEL Program. This pool was established on December 1, 2020, for a five-year term with an allocation of \$795,000. Since inception, the pool has been modified under delegated authority for \$205,000 in additional expenditure authority. The pool was established with five vendors of which one is local and also certified as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) firm. There have been no changes to the number prequalified vendors under the pool since its inception.

To track pool expenditures by vendor, effective June 1, 2023, bidding under this and other prequalification pools will be conducted and monitored in a single platform, INFORMS, which will allow staff to provide data reports to the Board, as requested. The pool remains open and additional vendors may be added any time during the term.

Background

The pool was established under delegated authority for multiple County departments. RER did not have an allocation since the invasive vegetation removal work could not be initiated until funding was made available as part of the adoption of the Miami-Dade Rescue Plan FY2022-23 Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan. The Miami-Dade Rescue Plan approved one-time funding for the EEL Program to allow RER to improve maintenance and other needed EEL related services, including the invasive vegetation removal work on its over 27,000 acres of EEL managed properties. This service will significantly address deferred maintenance on EEL properties that would otherwise negatively impact or eradicate native species.

Miami-Dade County is now home to hundreds of invasive species that harm our native plants and animals and degrade our quality of life. Worldwide, invasive species are one of the top causes of species endangerment and extinction. Invasive species complicate and slow down restoration of the Everglades ecosystem. Through the removal of specific invasive species that consume large amounts of water, the EEL Program can provide water conservation benefits and prevent the extinction of native species. Additional expenditure authority will allow RER to meet its operational needs for the properties under the EEL Program, as described under Section 24-50 of the Miami-Dade County Code.

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.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source

The pool term expires on November 30, 2025, and has a current cumulative allocation of \$1,000,000. If this request is approved, the pool will have a modified cumulative allocation of \$7,074,000. The requested increase in expenditure authority is based on RER's estimated operational needs for the remainder of the pool's term.

Department	Existing Cumulative Allocation	Additional Allocation Requested	Modified Cumulative Allocation	Funding Source	Contract Manager
Library System	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	Library District	Kimberly Craig
PROS	\$365,000	\$0	\$365,000	General Fund	Fernando L. Robreño
RER	\$244,000	\$6,074,000	\$6,318,000	Miami Rescue Plan/ Utility Service Fee/ Wetlands Trust Fund/ State Grant funds	Joel Arango, Jr
Solid Waste Management	\$351,000	\$0	\$351,000	Proprietary Funds	Karina Careaga
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$6,074,000	\$7,074,000		

Track Record/Monitor

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

Pregualified Vendors

Vendor	Principal Address	Local Address	Principal
Aquatic Vegetation Control, Inc.	1860 W 10 Street Riviera Beach, FL	None	Sharon Lee Gillenwalters
EarthBalance Corporation	2570 Commerce Parkway North Port, FL	None	Sarah J. Laroque
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 the 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.

Applicable Ordinances and Contract Measures

- The two percent User Access Program provision applies where permitted by funding source.
- Small Business Enterprise measures and Local Preference will be applied at the time of spot market competition where permitted by the funding source. Each spot market competition must be submitted to the Small Business Development Division for review.
- The Living Wage applies as the services are covered under the Ordinance.



Jimmy Morales
Chief Operations Officer



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 6, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(P)(19)

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 ____, 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) ____, or 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)(19)
7-6-23

RESOLUTION NO. R-635-23

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE
AUTHORITY UP TO \$6,074,000.00 FOR A TOTAL MODIFIED
PREQUALIFICATION POOL AMOUNT OF \$7,074,000.00 FOR
PREQUALIFICATION POOL NO. RTQ-01354 FOR THE
PURCHASE OF INVASIVE VEGETATION CONTROL
SERVICES FOR THE REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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 expenditure authority up to \$6,074,000.00 for a total modified prequalification pool amount of \$7,074,000.00 for Prequalification Pool No. RTQ-01354 for the purchase of invasive vegetation control services for the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department. 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 **Danielle Cohen Higgins** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Juan Carlos Bermudez** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	absent
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	absent
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	absent
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of July, 2023. 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: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. W. Gonzalez", written over a horizontal line.

Eduardo W. Gonzalez