

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council Members

From: Alberto Destrade, Purchasing Director 

Date: December 8, 2015

RE: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT OF DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 400 LINEAR FEET OF FORCE MAIN AND WATER MAINS LOCATED AT NE 131ST STREET AND THE BISCAZYNE CANAL.

Staff is requesting authorization to proceed with the emergency procurement of a design-build contract for the replacement of approximately 400 linear feet of the City's force main and water mains along N.E. 131st Street and the Biscayne Canal based on the following factors:

- Miami-Dade County ("County") is in the process of beginning work on a project to retrofit the existing Seaboard Acres Stormwater Pump Station, located at the intersection of NE 131 Street and Memorial Highway. The County's project will include the complete demolition and reconstruction of the existing pump station and the new pump station will provide the surrounding community with improved pumping capacity and enhanced monitoring of rainfall capacity in order to streamline the County's response to a major storm event by its inspectors and maintenance personnel.
- As part of the City staff's review of the proposed County project and the work which it entails, staff has determined that their scope of work could have a significant detrimental impact on the structural integrity of the City's force main and water mains located near the pump station along N.E. 131st Street and running under the C-8 canal.
- Staff further believes that the potential impact on the aforementioned City pipes is likely to result in significant sewage spill unto the adjacent neighborhood and the adjacent canal. If so, the potential health and safety risks to the surrounding residents, as well as the subsequent regulatory and punitive action by local and federal environmental agencies, could be extremely detrimental to the City.
- In order to avoid any adverse impact from the pump station project, staff has determined that the most appropriate course of action is to replace the existing water main and force mains, which already suffer from deteriorated conditions, prior to the start of the County's project and thereby eliminate the risks associated with the proposed project.
- However, due to the fact that the County has already issued a Notice-To-Proceed to their contractor on October 5, 2015, the County has recently informed staff that they cannot afford to wait much longer to start work on their project and has requested a prompt decision from the City on this matter.

- Therefore, in view of these exigent circumstances, staff has determined that time is of the essence and a standard competitive solicitation and bidding process is simply not feasible and instead an expedited procurement and award process is warranted.

Given the above, staff has already begun to seek proposals from firms that have the capability and expertise to complete the work as needed. In order to fast-track completion of the work and reduce the chance of potential conflicts and cost overruns, staff recommends that a design-build contract is best suited for this project.

Pursuant to Section 7-144 of the City's Procurement Code, the City may undertake an emergency procurement process when there exists an immediate threat to public health, welfare, or safety or to prevent or minimize serious disruption of government services, provided that such emergency procurements shall be made with such competition as is practicable under the circumstances.

Therefore, staff is requesting the authority to proceed with the emergency procurement of the necessary design-build services in order to mitigate the potential threat to public health and safety rather than adhering to the standard procurement procedures stipulated in the City's Procurement Code.

Staff anticipates that the estimated cost of this design-build contract will not exceed \$540,000 and the work is expected to last approximately 3 months.

The selected firm and negotiated terms and conditions of the design-build contract will be submitted to the Mayor and Council Members for review and ratification at the January 12, 2016 City Council meeting.

EOM.