



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#24-0439**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Greg Chavarria, City Manager

**DATE:** May 7, 2024

**TITLE:** Motion Approving a First Amendment to the Agreement with BDO USA, P.C., a Virginia Corporation authorized to Conduct Business in the State of Florida as, BDO USA, P.C., Corp. to Modify the Not-To-Exceed Amount for Consulting Services to Develop the Project Scope for the New River Crossing Project - \$50,000. - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a First Amendment to the Agreement with BDO USA, P.C. (BDO), a Virginia Corporation and authorize execution of the agreement, in substantially the form attached, to modify the not-to-exceed amount for consulting services for the New River Crossing project from \$325,000 to \$375,000.

**Background**

In 2019, Legislative Specific Appropriation Bill 1939 directed the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to develop a proposal to provide a crossing solution that meets the reasonable needs of navigational traffic, freight trains and passenger transit for the New River. The FDOT feasibility study identified four crossing alternatives which included three bridge alternatives and one tunnel alternative.

As a future New River crossing will have impacts on downtown Fort Lauderdale, the City Commission approved Resolution 22-20 on January 5, 2022, which urged the Florida Department of Transportation to consider the tunnel as the future of commuter rail service in the City of Fort Lauderdale. In addition, the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County agreed to conduct a joint study for the rail infrastructure alternatives of the New River. On February 7, 2023, the City Commission approved an Interlocal Agreement with Broward County for the joint study.

On October 18, 2023, the City procured the services of BDO to advance the tunnel consideration. Specifically, BDO. was tasked with defining the project, identifying federal funding opportunities, and developing an action plan for the project. The associated scope delivers the baseline for project development but requires additional resources in order to meet federal funding application minimum requirements.

To maximize time and resources associated with meeting upcoming federal funding application deadlines, at the November 21, 2023, City Commission Meeting, the City Commission approved a walk-on item, Resolution 23-277 Waiving the Formal Competitive Solicitation and Selection Processes Pursuant to Division 2., Procurement, of Article V. of Chapter 2 of the City of Fort Lauderdale Procurement Ordinance, for Consulting Services with BDO for the New River Crossing project.

On December 19, 2023, the City Commission approved an agreement with BDO for Consulting Services to Develop the Project Scope for the New River Crossing Project. The agreement defined the terms and conditions for BDO to complete such work.

On April 10, 2024, the City Commission received the BDO final report via Commission Memo 24-062. On April 16, 2024, BDO presented at the City Commission Conference meeting which included an overview of current potential Federal grant opportunities. The City Commission did not provide specific direction but indicated general support to pursue potential funding opportunities.

The existing agreement includes a task for BDO to assist the City in preparing applications including grant writing and developing any studies required for meeting each of the Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) requirements. The initial funds were expended for the development of the “short tunnel” New River Crossing alternative and to assist with the RAISE grant application, City staff recommends approval of the first amendment to provide additional funding to the existing agreement so that BDO can provide additional services.

**Resource Impact**

There is a fiscal impact associated with this action in the amount of \$50,000 which increases the total contract amount to \$375,000.

<b><i>Funds available as of April 26, 2024</i></b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>PROJECT NAME (Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>PURCHASE AMOUNT</b>
10-001-9002-519-30-3199	OTHER GEN GOVT-SOCIAL/CULTURAL	SERVICES-MATERIALS / OTHER PROF SERVICES	\$275,309	\$53,285	\$50,000
<b>PURCHASE TOTAL ►</b>					<b>\$50,000</b>

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are United.

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Agreement

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Prepared by: Ben Rogers, Director, Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility