



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

**#25-0018**

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

**FROM:** Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

**DATE:** January 7, 2025

**TITLE:** Motion Approving Agreement for the Purchase of Hauling and Disposal -  
Wastewater Treatment Sludge and Biosolids - Merrell Bros., Inc. -  
\$18,604,500 - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve an agreement, in substantially the form attached, for the purchase of Hauling and Disposal - Wastewater Treatment Sludge and Bio-Solids from Merrell Bros., Inc. (MBI) for an initial three (3)-year term in the amount of \$18,604,500, and authorize the City Manager to approve two (2) additional one (1)-year renewal options for an estimated annual renewal amount of \$6,201,500, for a potential total contract amount of \$31,007,500, contingent upon appropriation of funds.

**Background**

The George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant (GTL) is a central regional facility where wastewater is treated for the City of Fort Lauderdale, Wilton Manors, Oakland Park, and Port Everglades, as well as sections of Tamarac and unincorporated Broward County. GTL treats approximately 44 million gallons of wastewater per day and generates approximately 3,300 tons of treated biosolids (sludge) per month.

This Agreement provides for hauling and disposal services for GTL, transporting pre-treatment waste and sludge to an approved disposal location or residuals management facility as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection regulations. This material will be disposed of in a manner that complies with the appropriate federal, state, and local regulations.

On October 9, 2024, the Procurement Services Division issued an Invitation to Bid, Event No. 348, for the purchase of Hauling and Disposal - Wastewater Treatment Sludge and Bio-Solids. On November 5, 2024, the bid was to open, but having received only one bid, Staff extended the solicitation close date and performed additional supplier outreach to elicit interest and feedback. Responses received from the outreach included “cannot accommodate the capacity required,” “not interested in sludge,” and “firm does not typically manage wastewater biosolids.”

On November 8, 2024, the event closed, and a total of one (1) submission was received. With only one (1) bid received, staff was able to negotiate. On November 20, 2024, and November 26, 2024, Staff met with MBI and negotiated final pricing.

MBI's bid met the solicitation requirement and was deemed a responsive and responsible bidder.

**Resource Impact**

There will be a current fiscal year impact to the City in the amount of \$2,170,194 for this Agreement. Funds in the amount of \$2,170,194 are available in the FY 2025 Operating Budget in the accounts listed below. Future years' expenditures are contingent upon approval and appropriation of the annual budgets.

<b><i>Funds available as of December 23, 2024</i></b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>COST CENTER NAME(Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>PURCHASE AMOUNT</b>
10-451-7424-536-30-3252	Lohmeyer Regional Plant Operations	Services and Materials/ Sludge Disposal	\$10,921,702	\$6,135,038	\$2,170,194
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>					\$2,170,194

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a FY 2024 *Commission Priority*, advancing the Infrastructure and Resilience initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area, Goal 3: Be a sustainable and resilient community.

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

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040* Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- The Solid Waste Management Element
- Goal 1: The City of Fort Lauderdale shall provide or maintain solid waste management and collection programs to serve current and future needs.

**Attachments**

- Exhibit 1 - Solicitation
- Exhibit 2 - Merrell Response - BAFO
- Exhibit 3 - CoFL - Merrell - Agreement

Prepared by: Glenn Marcos, Chief Procurement Officer, Finance  
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