



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

#25-0667

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: September 3, 2025

TITLE: Motion Rejecting All Bids for Underground Utility Locating Services –
Invitation to Bid (ITB) Event No. 355-4 – (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and
4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission reject all bids received in response to Invitation to Bid (ITB) Event No. 355-4 for Underground Utility Locating Services.

Background

Sunshine 811 is a not-for-profit corporation mandated by law to provide safety measures prior to and during the construction of projects by (1) providing essential information on safe digging and (2) preventing damage to underground facilities in Florida. The organization was established in 1993 with the adoption of the “Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act,” Chapter 556, Florida Statutes.

Underground facility owners and operators are required by law to be members of Sunshine 811 and fund its operations. Florida law requires that anyone planning to dig contact Sunshine 811 at least two (2) full business days before breaking ground. When Sunshine 811 receives a request for locating services within the city, it notifies the Public Works Department so the City’s underground facilities can be marked by City staff at the planned dig site. In response to Sunshine 811’s notification, Public Works staff provide services including locating existing underground utilities such as water mains, wastewater pipelines, gas mains, storm drainage pipes, and buried electrical cables to prevent damage to those items in preparation for excavation projects.

Due to the volume of Sunshine 811 notifications and the demand for locating services performed by City staff, the City, via the Procurement Services Division, completed a competitive solicitation process with the goal of supplementing City staff capacity in performing Sunshine 811 location services for underground utilities in the city. In addition, City staff desires these services for other operational needs including selecting locations for installing new facilities such as light poles, pipelines, and other utilities to prevent damage to existing facilities.

On September 20, 2024, the Procurement Services Division issued Invitation to Bid (ITB) Event No. 355-4 – Underground Utility Locating Services seeking bids from qualified bidders to provide underground utility locating services for the City's Public Works Department, in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications contained in the ITB.

The City received the following two (2) bids in response to the solicitation, which was opened on November 6, 2024:

1. DTECH Consulting, LLC DBA GenXC Construction (DTECH)
2. Earth View, LLC (Earth View)

Initially, the Public Works Department recommended award to both firms to achieve maximum cost savings on a line-item basis. However, during the award process, Earth View withdrew its response, resulting in DTECH's overall bid to be cost prohibitive. Procurement staff requested a voluntary price reduction from DTECH, but it declined.

As a result, staff recommends rejecting both bids. The project will be re-solicited after further research and revision of the scope of services.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 *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 Internal Support Focus Area
- The Intergovernmental Coordination Element
- Goal 1: Coordinate all development activities and service delivery with other government agencies and adjacent municipalities for consistency with the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Solicitation

Exhibit 2 – Bid Tabulation

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