



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

24-0090

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: February 6, 2024

TITLE: Motion Approving a Service Agreement for an Urban Forestry Master Plan for the City of Fort Lauderdale with RES Florida Consulting, LLC d/b/a E Sciences - \$166,937 - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a Service Agreement, in substantially the form attached, for an Urban Forestry Master Plan for the City of Fort Lauderdale with RES Florida Consulting, LLC, d/b/a E Sciences, for an initial two (2) year term amount of \$166,937; and authorize the City Manager to approve a one (1) year renewal option for additional time only, if required, for deliverables to be completed.

Background

The City of Fort Lauderdale has long prioritized the importance of its urban forest. Trees provide many benefits to the City including shade, beautification, carbon sequestration, energy savings, property value increases, and reduction of stormwater runoff. Historically, the City has faced significant challenges with maintaining, enhancing, and managing its urban forest in the face of climatic changes, storm events, pest/disease outbreaks, and accelerated development pressure. With climate change, trees are increasingly important to address urban heat islands, air quality, and carbon sequestration and yet threatened by rising seas, saltwater intrusion, and high groundwater tables. The City's Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan recognizes this and sets a goal of increasing tree canopy to 33% by 2040.

The creation, adoption, and implementation of an Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) is essential to attaining these planning objectives and developing strategies to best manage the City's urban forest now and into the future. The UFMP will evaluate the status of the City's urban forest, establish a clear set of priorities and objectives, and provide a sustainable, strategic, and equitable framework for the management, maintenance, enhancement, and regulation of trees throughout the City. Recognizing the collective ecological, environmental, economic, cultural, and social contributions of the City's trees, the UFMP will benefit both the public and private urban forest and the community at large by guiding appropriate tree planting, maintenance, and regulation of trees.

On September 19, 2023, the Procurement Services Division issued Request for Proposals (RFP) Event 146-3 - Urban Forestry Master Plan for the City of Fort Lauderdale.

On October 24, 2023, the event closed and a total of three (3) firms, below listed, submitted proposals:

- Chen Moore and Associates (CMA)
- PlanIT Geo, Inc. (PGI)
- RES Florida Consulting, LLC d/b/a E Sciences (RES)

None of the firms listed their status as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

On November 17, 2023, the Evaluation Committee (Committee) met to evaluate and rank the proposals based on the following criteria:

Project Understanding and Proposed Approach to the Scope of Work	25%
Technical and Technological Capabilities	15%
Qualifications – Experience with similar projects, references, past performance, years in business	15%
Outreach and Communications Skills	15%
Total Project Cost	30%
TOTAL PERCENT AVAILABLE:	100%

Proposals were considered and all firms were deemed responsible and responsive, and after initial scoring it was determined to shortlist PGI and RES to give oral presentations to the Committee.

On November 30, 2023, the Committee met to receive presentations and later convened, scored, and confirmed the final rankings.

Staff recommends the Commission award a two-year contract to RES for an Urban Forestry Master Plan for the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$166,937 for this Agreement. Funds for this Agreement, in the amount of \$166,937, are contingent upon approval by the City Commission and appropriation of the consolidated budget amendment CAM #24-0035.

<i>Funds available as of January 9, 2024</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-7040-537-30-3199	Sustainability Operations	Services/ Materials / Other Professional Services	\$209,066	\$73,532	\$166,937
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$166,937

Strategic Connections

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community.
- Objective: Grow and enhance the urban forest

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

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

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Conservation Element
- Goal 3: Conserve, protect, and appropriately utilize the City’s terrestrial and marine habitats.

Related CAM

#24-0035

Attachments

- Exhibit 1 - Solicitation
- Exhibit 2 - Short List Summary Scores
- Exhibit 3 - Final Summary Scores and Tabulation
- Exhibit 4 - CMA Proposal
- Exhibit 5 - PGI Proposal
- Exhibit 6 - RES Proposal
- Exhibit 7 - Agreement

Prepared by: Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager, Public Works
 Laurie Platkin, Senior Procurement Specialist, Finance
 Matthew Eaton, Senior Administrative Assistant, Finance

Department Directors: Alan Dodd, P.E., Public Works
 Linda Short, Finance