



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041-1409 (305) 809-3700

**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager

**FROM:** Elizabeth Ignoffo, Permit Engineer

**CC:** James Bouquet, P.E., Engineering Director  
Michael Turner, Utilities Collection Manager

**DATE:** August 8, 2014

**SUBJECT:** **Awarding the Bid for Construction of the East Front Street Flood Mitigation, Project No. ST-1201, to Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., in the amount of \$2,964,012.50**

### **ACTION STATEMENT:**

This resolution will approve awarding East Front Street Flood Mitigation project to Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., in the amount of \$2,964,012.50, for construction

- Five (5) stormwater gravity injection wells;
- Stormwater drainage system along Front Street, from Whitehead Street to Exchange Street, with inlets on Front Street, Exchange Street and Wall Street, and new outfall at Mallory Square;
- Abandonment of existing outfall at the Aquarium; and
- Replacement of 32 inlets located along Duval Street, from the foot of Duval Street to Angela Street.

This resolution will authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the low bidder, in conformity with the bid documents, upon the advice and consent of the City Attorney; execute all required documents; and authorize the expenditure of funds for the project.

The low base bid, submitted by Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., is \$2,864,012.50, which includes \$200,000.00 contingency allowance, \$10,000.00 building permit allowance, \$15,000.00 Keys Energy Service allowance. This Invitation to Bid included an Add Alternative for Accelerated Schedule to complete the project within 210 calendar days versus 290 calendar days. For every day beyond 210 days, the add alternate figure shall be reduced by the amount calculated as the add alternate bid divided by 40, up to 250 days. If Contractor does not meet the 250 day period, no add alternate funds would be awarded. Low bid add alternate for accelerated schedule, submitted by Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., is \$100,000.00.

Total low bid, including contingency, building permit, Keys Energy Services allowance, and accelerated schedule additive, submitted by Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., is \$2,964,012.50.

MEMORANDUM

**BACKGROUND:**

2012 Stormwater Master Plan identified areas prone to experience flood conditions, developed, and evaluated infrastructure improvements to alleviate flood conditions. Areas and roads were ranked according to the number of parcels at risk to experience damage from a 100-year event and the length of street within the sub-basin.

According to the 2012 Stormwater Master Plan, properties along Wall Street, Front Street and within the sub-basin bounded by Caroline Street, between Simonton Street and Whitehead Street, are at risk to experience significant flooding in a 100-year rain event. Old Town North retail district and Front Streets will experience standing water conditions during the 10-year rain event.

To reduce flooding in the Old Town North and Front Street retail district, the Stormwater Master Plan recommends constructing gravity injection wells at higher elevations along Duval, Simonton and Whitehead Streets, and addressing localized ponding of stormwater. These recommendations have been incorporated into the East Front Street Flood Mitigation Project.

The project includes drilling five (5) gravity injection wells. Each well will be situated in a triple-chamber baffle box and placed at following locations:

- Whitehead Street, mid-block between Caroline Street and Greene Street
- Fleming Street and Duval Street
- Angela Street and Duval Street
- Eaton Street and Duval Street
- Simonton Street, mid-block between Eaton Street and Caroline Street

The Front Street drainage system and outfall beneath the Aquarium will be replaced with a 24-inch stormwater drainage system and new outfall at Mallory Square. Triple chamber baffle box will be installed to remove debris, sediments, oil and grease from the stormwater. A tide valve will be installed at the outfall terminal, to prevent seawater tidal flows from impacting the Old Town North and Front Street area.

Duval Street stormwater collection system will be improved by the replacement of existing curb drains with larger curb inlets utilizing standard FDOT type inlets, enhancing the capture of more runoff before it flows onto lower lying streets along Front Street.

On July 17, 2014, two bids were opened by the City Clerk. Both bids were determined to be responsive to the Invitation to Bid. The low base bid plus allowances and add alternated for accelerated schedule, \$2,964,012.50, was submitted by Douglas N. Higgins, Inc. A summary of the received bids follows:

	D.N. Higgins, Inc.	Charley Toppino & Sons, Inc.
Base Bid	\$2,639,012.50	\$2,831,798.45
Contingency Allowance	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
Building Permit Allowance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
KES Allowance	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
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Accelerated Schedule Bid	\$100,000.00	\$175,000.00
Total Bid	\$2,964,012.50	\$3,231,798.45

## **PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION:**

The purpose of the scope of work, including drilling gravity injection wells, catch basin inlet upgrades, construction of the Front Street drainage system and outfall at Mallory Square, is to protect properties in the Old Town North and Front Street retail district from future localized flooding and increase the ability to recover from torrential rain events.

The City of Key West residents and business community are generally understanding of the need to improve the drainage system in the Old Town North and Front Street area. Construction must be completed in a timely manner, with as much work as possible taking place during off peak "tourist season." An accelerated construction pace is very desirable to the residents and businesses. Sufficient funds are available for the Accelerated Schedule Add Alternative. Acceptance of this alternative will honor the City's commitment to minimize community and business impacts, by financially encouraging the Contractor to complete the project within 210 calendar days versus 290 calendar days.

## **OPTIONS:**

1. The City Commission could approve award of the contract, in the amount of \$2,964,012.50, to the low bidder, Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., for accelerated construction of the East Front Street Flood Mitigation Project, ST-1201; authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the low bidder, in conformity with the bid documents upon the advice and consent of the City Attorney; execute all required documents; and authorize the expenditure of funds for the project. Approval will allow the City of Key West to utilize FEMA grant funds.
2. The City Commission could elect to not approve award of the contract to the low bidder for East Front Street Flood Mitigation Project No. ST-1201.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Phase II grant funding provides 75% of the construction costs, up to \$2,454,440.00, with a 25% city match, and 100% funding for administration costs, up to \$40,408.00 with no city share required, and has been approved by Resolution No. 14-065. The federally funded subgrant agreement, contract number 14HM-2V-11-54-02-446, will be administered through the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). The total amount of Federal funding available for Phase II construction and administration is \$2,494,848.00. The City of Key West match for construction is \$818,146.00.

City has budgeted \$3,708,367.00, for construction of the East Front Street Flood Mitigation Project. FY 13/14 Stormwater Utility Fund holds \$2,508,367.00 and provides \$1,200,000.00 in FY 14/15.

Funds will be deposited into Stormwater Utility revenue account 402-331-5001. Project costs for East Front Street Flood Mitigation, Project No. ST 1201, are budgeted in expense account 402-3802-538-65.

Reimbursement breakdown for this project will be as follows:

Construction		
	FEMA/FDEM Share (75%)	\$2,454,440.00
	City Stormwater Utility Match (25%)	\$818,146.00
Administration		
	FEMA/FDEM Share (100%)	\$40,408.00
	City Stormwater Utility Match (0%)	\$0.00
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		\$3,312,994.00

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Staff recommends the City Commission select Option 1; approve award of the contract to the low bidder, Douglas N. Higgins, Inc., authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the low bidder, in conformity with the bid documents upon the advice and consent of the City Attorney, and authorize the expenditure of funds for the project.