



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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MEMORANDUM

To: Jim Scholl, City Manager

From: Greg Veliz, Community Services Director

VIA: David Fernandez, Assistant City Manager- Operations

Date: January 28, 2010

Subject: Resolution approving the sole source purchase of FlexiPave in the amount not to exceed \$150,000

ACTION STATEMENT:

Approving the purchase of Flexi-Pave material from K.B. Industries, inc. on a sole source basis pursuant to Section 2-797(1) for brand name items in accordance with 2-844 of the Code of Ordinances for paving around tree and flora planter areas bordering streets within certain areas of the historic district in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

BACKGROUND:

In August of 2009 under the authority of the City Commission of the City of Key West, Florida Resolutions 09-220 and 09-263, the City Staff of Key West installed Flexi-Pave materials from K.B. Industries, Inc. in the tree planters along Duval Street and in areas adjacent to the Southernmost Point. This material was also installed to abate an issue with a champion tree root system heaving sidewalk sections adjacent to a large tree on Front and Wall Street.

Since this time period, no reported trip incidents from tree planters have occurred. Several citizens have made positive comments as to the aesthetically pleasing nature of the material. Additionally, staff has reported a reduction in the time necessary to clean the planters, thus allowing time to perform other tasks and reducing equipment fuel usage.

The use of Flexi-Pave has allowed us to retain trees that otherwise would have be removed due to their root structure severely damaging city sidewalks. Retaining trees helps the City of Key West maintain green areas and maintain its carbon reduction standard.

PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION:

The continued installation of the Flexi-Pave Materials around the tree and flora planter areas as well as sidewalk replacement will significantly reduce trip hazards caused by uneven elevated surfaces, thus promoting public safety. Additional benefits manifest environmentally from the use of recycled materials, reduction in fuel usage and carbon monoxide emissions. A reduction in runoff water during tree watering operations due to installed Flexi-Pave Porosity is also noteworthy. Due to storage constraints, it is the intention of staff to purchase Flexi-Pave incrementally in manageable units. Procurement of this product will not exceed the line item budget of \$150,000.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve resolution which will allow for continued mitigation of potential slip, trip and fall hazards in high pedestrian traffic areas.
2. Disapprove resolution. This course of action does not further abate potential slip, trip, and fall hazards in high pedestrian traffic areas within the city limits.
3. Purchase materials from alternative vendors. This course of action requires staff to conduct "due diligence" research and testing on any new products, thus delaying hazard mitigation. Additionally, use of alternative vendors may adversely affect consistent appearance and product performance within the city.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Flexi-Pave is a budgeted line item in the Internal Improvements Fund 102-4104-541.52.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends option # 1 to approve resolution authorizing the purchase of materials from K.B. Industries, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$150,000 to continue commitment to public safety and our city's environmental well-being.