



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: Patti McLaughlin, Interim City Manager
Todd Stoughton, Interim Asst. City Manager

FROM: John Paul Castro, Utilities Director

DATE: April 19th, 2021

SUBJECT: Approving Smoke Testing Services by USSI, LLC by Piggybacking the Toho Water Authority Contract

Action Statement:

This is a request to approve the smoke testing services of USSI, LLC by piggybacking off the Toho Water Authority contract in the amount of \$104,180.00 pursuant to code of ordinances 2-797 (3) purchases and acquisitions under government contracts.

Background:

The city wastewater collection system was mostly rehabilitated in the early 2000's. At the time there were a couple collection districts that were not replaced as they were still in acceptable condition. After 20 years those systems have started to reach the end of their useful life and need to be inspected.

In the past 3 to 4 years the wastewater system has begun to see the effects of infiltration from sea level rise. The flow has noticeably increased as the high tides get higher and stay for longer periods of time.

A combination of aging collection districts, high tides, and increased stormwater staging due to tidal influences has also caused more inflow of stormwater into the collection system. The cause of the inflow needs investigation, inflow can come from manhole covers leaking from flooded streets, private property cleanouts that are open or improperly sealed, or unauthorized connections into the system.

Purpose and Justification:

Due to the increasing frequency of events the city started searching for companies to who specialize in Inflow & Infiltration investigation (I&I). USSI is a Florida based company who specializes in rapid testing of municipal wastewater collection systems.

The process starts with public outreach. USSI will go door-to-door deploy door

Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.

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hangers to every building in the testing area that lists the website which has further information and phone number for concerned citizens.

USSI can test miles of pipe each day. Smoke is introduced into the city system and pumped through blocks at a time. The team will walk city right of way looking for smoke exiting compromised systems. While some smoke can get into houses and buildings it is completely harmless. The testing is meant for leaks on the exterior of structures from the property to the municipal system.

The inspection team locates and maps all deficiencies on a GIS database and reports within 3 days of testing. The deficiency's will be listed by type and location and the city is given repair recommendations for each. The city can then save the GIS data and plan repairs or enforce code violations where located.

The price being extended through the previously bid contract is \$.34 per foot of system. The budget allowed all the city's 302,000 linear feet of gravity collection system to be contracted for inspection. The smoke testing is expected to take 3 weeks.

Financial Impact:

The funds for I&I inspection were budgeted in sewer/renewal and replacement/repairs and maintenance 401-3503-535-4600 at \$150,000.00.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approving the USSI, LLC smoke test proposal based of the Toho Water Authority IFB-20-076 with an expiration date of May 12, 2023 in the amount of \$104,180.00