



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager

**CC:** E. David Fernandez, Asst. City Manager – Operations  
Mark Finigan, Asst. City Manager - Administration

**FROM:** Doug Bradshaw, Senior Project Manager

**DATE:** March 2, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Task Order No. 01 Biological, Physical, and Construction Monitoring for the Renourishment of Smathers Beach Project to PBS&J. for \$447,135.77 and approval of necessary general fund budget transfers.

**ACTION STATEMENT:**

This resolution will approve Task Order No. 01 and necessary for general environmental consulting services for the supervision of the beach renourishment at Smathers Beach and the physical and biological monitoring as required by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permits in an amount not to exceed \$447,135.77 to PBS&J.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Key West constructed Smathers Beach in the early 1960's by excavating rock out 500 feet on the waterside of the South Roosevelt Blvd Seawall and replacing with sand. The beach eroded over the years and by the 1980's it was mostly cap rock on the beach and large chunks of rocks in the water. The City and County spent over \$2 million in permitting and mitigation and finally obtained the renourishment permits in 1998. Renourishment occurred in 2000 with protective beach fill along 3,000 feet of the previously nourished Smathers Beach area. Funding for the renourishment came from the USACE, FDEP, TDC and City of Key West.

Smathers beach has continued to erode since the renourishment in 2000. The City has rebuilt the protective berms above mean high water (MHW) after most hurricane events but the beach below MHW has not been renourished and is eroding and rocky.

The City has been actively working on a complete renourishment project for Smather's Beach. The City has issued and received bids from contractors for the sand placement for the beach renourishment project and expects the work to begin this spring/summer. The City has a current FDEP and USACE permit (see attachments) for the proposed beach renourishment project. The permits have numerous requirements for pre, during, and post-construction activities which include actions to manage and minimize environmental damage. Due to the beach being located in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) the agencies require more monitoring than for a typical beach. The permits include 8 beach topographic surveys and seagrass studies over a period of 4 years. The

City is working arduously through its consultant PBS&J to reduce the number of monitoring events if possible.

**PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION**

In order to begin the project, the City must task a consultant to oversee construction and complete the requirements of the permits. Without the required monitoring, the beach cannot be renourished.

**OPTIONS / ADVANTAGES / DISADVANTAGES:**

1. Approve task order for PBS&J in the amount of \$447,135.77 and authorize necessary general fund budget transfers. PBS&J. has an existing agreement with the City for general environmental consulting services. Executing this task order will enable the City to proceed with the beach renourishment project on schedule and will utilize the expertise this firm brings.
2. The City Commission can decline to authorize this task order; however, obtaining a new coastal firm would delay the project which must be complete by July 6, 2011 which is when the FDEP permit expires.
3. The City Commission can choose not to move forward with the renourishment project. This is not recommended by staff. The beach is an important component of our tourism industry, home to not only swimmers, but weddings, water sports and sunbathers. The Key West beaches are promoted by the TDC and having a rocky beach and small beach is less than optimal. Smaller hotels, motels, guest house and inns all rely on beaches for guest recreation as they do not have their own beaches.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

This task order is for \$447,135.77. The task order contains all tasks required pre, during and post renourishment for both permits.

The budgeted amount for the renourishing project including sand placement and monitoring/CEI is \$903,200 for budget year 2010-2011. (City of Key West - \$370,100, TDC - \$103,900, and DEP - \$429,200). Total cost for the project during budget year 2010-2011 is \$963,450 which requires a budget transfer of \$60,500 from the general fund reserves to cover the project.

Budget Year	Sand Placement	Monitoring/CEI	Total Cost	Available Funds	+/-
2010-2011	\$743,574	\$219,876	\$963,450	\$903,000	-\$60,450
2011-2012		\$128,790	\$128,790	*	-\$128,790
2012-2013		\$53,410	\$53,410	*	-\$53,410
2013-2014		\$22,530	\$22,530	*	-\$22,530
2014-2015		\$22,530	\$22,530	*	-\$22,530

\*The City will need to budget funds to cover the cost of the project during these years

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Commission select option 1, the approval of the task order to PBS&J in the amount of \$447,135.77 and authorize necessary general fund budget transfers.