

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
From: Isaac Brownman, Public Works Director
Report date: January 26, 2021
Meeting date: February 1, 2021
Subject: Beach Projects Update

Recommended Action

None, informational only.

Background

This project consists of 3 segments of construction on Longboat Key's beaches. Segment 1 is to provide for the establishment of 5 rock groins on the North end and Greer Island portions of the island. It also includes placing 200,000 cubic yards (CY) of sand within the newly established groin field. Segment 2 is the central Key beach fill and requires 350,000 CY of sand to meet the desired fill template. Segment 3 is an optional fill segment on the South end of the island and anticipates 160,000 CY of fill. In addition, the North end structures will be North and South of the existing permeable adjustable concrete groins and will also be semi-permeable. These structures are designed to mitigate the beach erosion experienced on that segment. All segments will utilize the permitted sand borrow area located at Passage Key. As a permit requirement, dune vegetation and mangrove planting will be part of the project on Greer Island.

The bidding for this project started on November 17, 2020 and the bidding concluded on January 11, 2021, with bid opening on that date. We received one bid from Weeks Marine, Inc. Weeks is one of the largest dredging contractors in the Country and have the specialty dredge equipment available for our complex project. Other prospective bidders were contacted by the Town's Purchasing department to determine why they did not submit a bid; other contractors did not have either the availability or equipment to proceed with a bid. Weeks Marine will utilize Kelly Brothers, Inc. as a subcontractor to conduct the rock work (construct the groins). In both cases, references were checked and both had favorable responses.

Weeks bid \$25,920,970.00 for the base project, \$4,167,500.00 for the optional segment (3) and \$30,500.00 for the contingency of Sea Turtle Trawling. The total for this contract is \$30,125,970. This is a very favorable bid, coming in under the engineer's estimate by over \$8,000,000. After staff reviewed all required documents and checked references, staff recommended award of both the base project and the optional segment (3) and the Town Manager executed the Notice of Bid Award to the contractor on January 19, 2021.

Weeks Marine provided a preliminary construction schedule. Highlights of the schedule include mobilization for the rock groin construction occurring in February 2021 with construction of the northern most 2 groins happening between February and June. The dredge and beach fill equipment will be mobilized to the Key in March and April. Beach fill will take place for the Central and South segments between April and June. The final aspect of the construction will be establishment of the last three groins, filling of the groin field, and the associated dune/mangrove plantings. These tasks will occur between June and August. The Contract allows for construction of the groins to take place between 7am and 7pm, 7 days a week. The contract further allows for sand placement to take place 24hrs a day, 7 days a week. This is consistent with previous dredge beach nourishment projects on Longboat Key. This schedule is necessary to support the project construction budget and to minimize the potential impacts of working within shore bird / sea turtle nesting season. The demobilization of all equipment from the project site is set for late Summer.

The Gulfside Road Nourishment / Longboat Pass Dredge project is also projected to start in the Spring of this year. The sand source for this project is Longboat Pass. Manatee County is currently under bid review to secure a dredge contractor to complete a small Coquina Beach (FEMA) beach nourishment project. Their project is scheduled to be complete by mid-May. The Town is looking to work with the selected contractor to continue the effort in Longboat Pass and pump the sand to the Gulfside Road beach area. Depending of production rates, this project should run through mid-Summer.

While these construction projects are ongoing, our consultant (Olsen Engineering) will be working on the engineering, permit updating, design and bidding of the New Pass dredge and groin tightening. We would like to begin the bid process to dredge New Pass, backfill the very southern beach segment, and tighten the New Pass groin at the end of FY21. Construction is planned for the Winter of 2022. This will avoid potential impacts to the sea turtle nesting season and will complete the nourishment of the Island. There is a cost benefit to this action, due to the close proximity of the dredge to the beach fill area.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

Attachments

PowerPoint Presentation (Available from Town Clerk's Office)

End of Agenda Item