



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager

DATE: July 24, 2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NO. 2024-234-ND, FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR SEAWALLS AND LIVING SHORELINES; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH BCC ENGINEERING, LLC, AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE BEST QUALIFIED TO SERVE AS THE PRIME/LEAD CONSULTANT FOR SEAWALLS; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH BCC ENGINEERING, LLC, AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH CUMMINS CEDERBERG, INC., AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE SECOND BEST QUALIFIED CONSULTANT FOR SEAWALLS; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH CUMMINS CEDERBERG, INC., AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH GHD SERVICES INC., AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE THIRD BEST QUALIFIED CONSULTANT FOR SEAWALLS; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH CUMMINS CEDERBERG, INC., AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE BEST QUALIFIED TO SERVE AS THE PRIME/LEAD CONSULTANT FOR LIVING SHORELINES; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH CUMMINS CEDERBERG, INC., AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH MOFFATT & NICHOL, INC., AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE SECOND BEST QUALIFIED CONSULTANT FOR LIVING SHORELINES; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH MOFFATT & NICHOL, INC., AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH GHD SERVICES INC., AS THE PROPOSER DETERMINED TO BE THE THIRD BEST QUALIFIED CONSULTANT FOR LIVING SHORELINES; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT(S) UPON THE CONCLUSION OF SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION. (PUBLIC WORKS)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Commission approve the Resolution accepting the City Manager's recommendation pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2024-234-ND for engineering services for seawalls and living shorelines, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with BCC Engineering, LLC, as the proposer determined to be the best qualified to serve as the prime/lead consultant for seawalls; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with BCC Engineering, LLC, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the second best qualified consultant for seawalls; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into

negotiations with GHD Services Inc., as the proposer determined to be the third best qualified consultant for seawalls; and further authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the best qualified to serve as the prime/lead consultant for living shorelines; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Moffatt & Nichol, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the second best qualified consultant for living shorelines; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Moffatt & Nichol, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with GHD Services Inc., as the proposer to be the third best qualified consultant for living shorelines. The Resolution also authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute agreement(s) upon the conclusion of successful negotiations by the Administration.

The solicitation is currently under the cone of silence.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The City of Miami Beach is investing in infrastructure to reduce flood risk and adapt to climate change. As part of its resilience efforts, the City has updated multiple land use codes for new construction to address stormwater retention and setbacks and to increase base flood and freeboard requirements. Most recently, the City adopted an Ordinance entitled “Resiliency Standards for Tidal and Flood Protection”, requiring all new seawalls, and those being reconstructed, to have a minimum elevation of 5.7 ft. North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88).

The City of Miami Beach has approximately 55 miles of seawalls, of which approximately 50 miles are privately owned, and 5 miles are City-owned. To optimize the benefits of the seawall program, the Public Works Department developed a methodology to prioritize the reconstruction of approximately 2.8 miles of City-owned seawalls within the next 10 years. Factors such as elevation, location, and condition of each seawall were used to develop the initial ranking of each seawall.

The initial rankings were then adjusted to capture the benefits derived from contiguous private seawall segments. Essentially, by optimizing the elevation of public seawalls adjacent to extended private seawall segments, the City can mitigate additional flooding and encourage residents to reconstruct their seawalls. Thus, the ultimate focus of the seawall prioritization was to establish a continuous storm surge and overland flooding barrier throughout the City.

The seawall prioritization was approved and adopted in 2021, and since then, the City has been working on executing the design and construction of prioritized segments. In 2021, the City also identified the most viable locations for implementing a living shoreline within existing City-owned shoreline segments. Living shoreline projects may utilize a variety of structural and organic materials, such as wetland plants, submerged aquatic vegetation, oyster reefs, sand fill, and stone.

The City is interested in partnering with the most innovative and solutions-oriented engineers in the field dedicated to resilience and Miami Beach Rising Above, to continue to carry out the planned improvements to the prioritized seawall segments. These planned improvements include a combination of conventional seawalls, hybrid seawalls, and living shorelines. The intent is to maximize sustainable and resilient solutions for our City.

Accordingly, the Administration developed RFQ 2024-234-ND seeking proposals for the desired services.

ANALYSIS

On April 3, 2024, the Mayor and the City Commission authorized the issuance of RFQ No. 2024-234-ND for engineering services for seawalls and living shorelines. On April 4, 2024, the RFQ was issued. A voluntary pre-proposal conference to provide information to proposers submitting

a response was held on April 17, 2024. One addendum was issued, and 101 prospective bidders accessed the advertised solicitation. RFQ responses were due and received on May 28, 2024. The City received proposals from the following firms for seawalls and living shorelines:

Seawalls:

- BCC Engineering, LLC
- Cummins Cederberg, Inc.
- GHD Services Inc.
- Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
- R.J. Behar & Company, Inc.
- AECOM Technical Services, Inc.
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Living Shorelines:

- Cummins Cederberg, Inc.
- Moffatt & Nichol, Inc.
- GHD Services Inc.
- AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

On May 29, 2024, the City Manager appointed the Evaluation Committee via LTC # 209-2024. The Evaluation Committee convened on June 17, 2024, to consider the proposals received. The Committee was comprised of Eugene Egemba, Principal Engineer, Public Works Engineering Department; Matthew Lepera, Construction Manager, Public Works Engineering Department; Mariela Paez Castillo, Principal Engineer, Public Works Engineering Department; Lindsey Precht, Assistant Director, Environment and Sustainability Department; and Adalberto Vicedo, Chief Structural Engineer, Building Department.

The Committee was provided an overview of the project, information relative to the City's Cone of Silence Ordinance, and the Government Sunshine Law. The Committee was also provided with general information on the scope of services and a copy of each proposal. The Committee was instructed to score and rank each proposal pursuant to the evaluation criteria established in the RFQ. The results of the Evaluation Committee process are detailed in Attachment A and resulted in the following rankings

Seawalls:

- 1st ranked (tie) – BCC Engineering, LLC
- 1st ranked (tie) – Cummins Cederberg, Inc.
- 3rd ranked – GHD Services Inc.
- 4th ranked – Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
- 5th ranked – R.J. Behar & Company, Inc.
- 6th ranked – AECOM Technical Services, Inc.
- 7th ranked – Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Living Shorelines:

- 1st ranked (tie) – Cummins Cederberg, Inc.
- 1st ranked (tie) – Moffatt & Nichol, Inc.
- 3rd ranked - GHD Services Inc.
- 4th ranked – AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

The Evaluation Committee process resulted in a tie for top rank for seawalls and living shorelines. BCC Engineering, LLC and Cummins Cederberg, Inc. were tied top-ranked in the seawall category. Cummins Cederberg, Inc. and Moffatt & Nichol, Inc. were tied top-ranked in the living shorelines category. After reviewing the submissions, the Evaluation Committee's rankings and commentary, and the City's experience with the tied firms, the Administration recommends that the City negotiate with BCC Engineering as the best-qualified firm to serve as the prime/lead consultant for seawall projects and Cummins Cederberg as the best-qualified firm to serve as the prime/lead consultant for living shoreline projects.

Awarding the contract to a single consultant for each discipline, such as the seawall and living shorelines, ensures continuity and cohesion throughout the project. When the City collaborates with consultants with a proven track record of successful work, it promotes a seamless workflow and consistency in quality. This approach will minimize potential communication issues and design misalignments that can arise from involving multiple consultants. In addition, having one consultant will foster trust and mutual understanding, which are crucial for efficiently addressing any challenges that may emerge during the project.

While splitting the contract among multiple consultants might introduce diverse perspectives, the complexities of coordinating and integrating different consultants can lead to delays and inconsistencies in the final designs. Therefore, the benefits of maintaining continuity and cohesion with experienced, trusted consultants significantly outweigh the advantages of dividing the contract among several consultants. BCC Engineering and Cummins Cederberg have both demonstrated their ability to deliver outstanding results, and their selection as the sole consultants will be advantageous to the City.

Lastly, the available workload and the volume of projects do not justify the engagement of two consultants at this time. The prime/lead consultants in each category should be able to complete all the designs as envisioned in the City's seawall prioritization plan.

SEAWALLS

The Evaluation Committee deemed BCC Engineering, LLC (BCC Engineering) as one of the best-qualified firms to provide engineering services for seawalls. The Evaluation Committee noted that BCC Engineering has not only completed similar projects for other municipalities in Florida but has also successfully completed various seawall projects for the City. This experience demonstrates a thorough understanding of the City's initiatives. The Evaluation Committee also highlighted BCC Engineering's familiarity with South Florida's structural landscape, which has been beneficial for past projects and will continue to be advantageous for future seawall projects. Finally, the approach and methodology outlined by BCC Engineering's Proposal was detailed and included a seawall evaluation matrix that is used to determine optimal solutions and a quality control and quality management plan that can reduce the workload for City staff.

BCC Engineering, founded in Miami in 1994 as a local Florida-based firm, has steadfastly dedicated itself to fulfilling the demands of both the private and public sector clientele. Its expertise lies in the realm of structural, planning, design, and construction management, encompassing a wide spectrum of services, including civil, environmental, site development, traffic engineering, multi-modal transit, complete streets, and highway engineering projects. Today, BCC Engineering is an award-winning firm with 385 employees and has delivered over \$6 billion in 100+ projects to date. Finally, BCC Engineering has assessed, repaired, and replaced Florida seawalls in Fort Lauderdale, Sarasota, and Miami-Dade County. All references provided positive feedback.

The Evaluation committee also deemed Cummins Cederberg, Inc. (Cummins Cederberg), tied top-ranked proposer, and GHD Services Inc., third-ranked proposer, well qualified and should be considered if the negotiations with BCC Engineering are not successful.

Cummins and Cederberg, founded over 10 years ago, is an engineering firm that has and continues to exclusively focus on coastal and marine projects. Its professional team is comprised of coastal engineers, marine structural engineers, marine biologists, regulatory and policy experts, marine scientists, and surveyors with proven experience in all facets of coastal engineering, environmental planning, and regulatory framework. Cummins Cederberg has significant experience within the City of Miami Beach, with more than 40 waterfront projects over the last 10 years, and the City has been satisfied with its work and offered positive feedback. Finally, its portfolio showcases a range of innovative and resilient seawall projects in Boynton Beach, Pompano Beach, and Highland Beach, among others. All references provided positive feedback.

GHD Services Inc., established in 1928, is one of the world's leading professional services companies. It operates in the global markets of water, energy and resources, environment, property and buildings, and transportation. It provides engineering, environmental, advisory, digital, and construction services. It has completed seawall projects for Biscayne Bay, the City of Miami, and Indian Creek Village, among others. All references provided positive feedback.

LIVING SHORELINES

The Evaluation Committee deemed Cummins Cederberg as one of the best-qualified firms to provide engineering services for living shorelines. The Evaluation Committee noted that Cummins Cederberg has extensive local experience, including living shoreline projects for the City at Beach View Park, Mid Beach Park, and West 40th Street. Additionally, the Committee recognized that Cummins Cederberg conducted a Citywide living shoreline viability assessment, which was implemented and helped secure a Resilient Florida Grant to fund the design, permitting, and construction of three living shoreline segments. Consequently, it would benefit the City to have Cummins Cederberg continue to support future innovative, fundable, and permitable living shoreline projects. Finally, the Evaluation Committee highlighted Cummins Cederberg's comprehensive knowledge of the local procedures, regulatory permitting requirements, and innovative solutions, such as 3D-printed artificial reef models and 3D habitat units, which contribute to building resilient and sustainable living shorelines.

Cummins and Cederberg, founded over 10 years ago, is an engineering firm that has and continues to exclusively focus on coastal and marine projects. Its professional team is comprised of coastal engineers, marine structural engineers, marine biologists, regulatory and policy experts, marine scientists, and surveyors with proven experience in all facets of coastal engineering, environmental planning, and regulatory framework. Cummins Cederberg has significant experience within the City of Miami Beach, with more than 40 waterfront projects over the last 10 years, and the City has been satisfied with its work and offered positive feedback. Finally, it has a deep understanding of the unique coastal challenges and environmental conditions characteristic of Miami-Dade County as it has completed living shoreline projects for the City of Miami, the City of West Palm Beach, and Key Biscayne. All references provided positive feedback.

The Evaluation committee also deemed Moffatt & Nichol, Inc., tied top-ranked proposer, and GHD Services Inc., third-ranked proposer, well qualified and should be considered if the negotiations with Cummins and Cederberg are not successful.

Moffat & Nichol, Inc. was founded in Long Beach, California, in 1945 to provide design engineering services to the evolving maritime industry; making it one of the first engineering firms in the world to embrace the concept of modern coastal engineering. It opened its Miami office in 1994 and has since opened eight other offices. The firm currently has over 100 personnel, of which over 25 are coastal/maritime engineers and scientists. Its vast local experience includes being a partner and advisor to Miami-Dade County as the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) moves forward with the next phase of the Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) study, advising North Bay Village on the planning of their Island Walk project, and developing the draft tidal barrier ordinance for the Village of Key Biscayne. All references provided positive feedback.

GHD Services Inc., established in 1928, is one of the world's leading professional services companies. It operates in the global markets of water, energy and resources, environment, property and buildings, and transportation. It provides engineering, environmental, advisory, digital, and construction services. It has completed living shoreline projects for Biscayne Bay, the City of Miami, and Ponce Inlet, among others. All references provided positive feedback.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Public Works Department has budgeted \$1,000,000 for these services. Fees will be established through the negotiation process. Services pursuant to the award of this RFQ shall be

subject to successful negotiations and the availability of funds approved through the City's budgeting process. It is not anticipated that grant funding will be utilized for this project.

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

The Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on . See BIE at:
<https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notice/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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| 433-0815-061357-29-418-564-00-00-00-29020 | \$1,000,000 |
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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, it is recommended that the Mayor and City Commission approve the Resolution accepting the City Manager's recommendation pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2024-234-ND for engineering services for seawalls and living shorelines, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with BCC Engineering, LLC, as the proposer determined to be the best qualified to serve as the prime/lead consultant for seawalls; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with BCC Engineering, LLC, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the second best qualified consultant for seawalls; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with GHD Services Inc., as the proposer determined to be the third best qualified consultant for seawalls; and further authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the best qualified to serve as the prime/lead consultant for living shorelines; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Cummins Cederberg, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Moffatt & Nichol, Inc., as the proposer determined to be the second best qualified consultant for living shorelines; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Moffatt & Nichol, Inc., authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with GHD Services Inc., as the proposer to be the third best qualified consultant for living shorelines. The Resolution also authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute agreement(s) upon the conclusion of successful negotiations by the Administration.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Procurement

Sponsor(s)

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Award RFQ 2024-234-ND, Engineering Services for Seawalls and Living Shorelines PW/PR