

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Recommendation to approve a Work Order for CSA Ocean Sciences, Inc. to continue the required post-construction hardbottom monitoring for the Collier County Beach Nourishment Project in summer 2024 for time and materials not to exceed \$368,494.04 Tourist Development Tax funds under Professional Services Agreement No. 22-8015, authorize the Chairman to execute the Work Order, and make a finding that this item promotes tourism (Fund 195, Project No. 90033).**

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**OBJECTIVE:** To continue to conduct post-construction hardbottom monitoring of Collier County's coast as required by regulatory permits and accept a proposal dated March 25, 2024, to perform biological monitoring in 2024.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** The Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the United States Army Corps of Engineers require nearshore hardbottom monitoring to be performed on a yearly basis to assure that beach renourishment sand has not migrated onto the nearshore coral outcropping off the coast of Collier County. This work is required to be performed during the spring and summer of each year when underwater visibility in the Gulf of Mexico is greatest. Field work must be completed, according to permit, by September 30, 2024.

Pending the results of annual inlet monitoring, should dredging be required in areas known to have seagrass habitat, CSA may also be required to perform sub aquatic vegetation surveys during the summer growing season.

On February 27, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved Agreement 22-8015 (Item 16.B.5). A work order will be released against the master contract identifying specific scope of work, schedule, and pricing for the summer 2024 nearshore hardbottom monitoring. The Work Order for 2024 is for a not to exceed time and material amount of \$368,494.04. Although this Work Order includes an approximately 8% rate increase from the prior contract, the overall fee for 2024 is about \$10,000 less than 2023, primarily because side-scan sonar is not needed for 2024 or the next several years of monitoring. Subaquatic vegetation (SAV) surveys for Wiggins and Doctors Passes have been included on an as-needed basis but will likely not be necessary since inlet dredging is not anticipated for 2024.

This item is consistent with the Quality of Place Objectives of the County's Strategic Plan.

**GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT:** This item is consistent with the Conservation and Coastal Management Element of the Growth Management Plan.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:** This item will be presented to the Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC) on May 9, 2024, and the Tourist Development Council (TDC) on May 21, 2024.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:** This item is approved as to form and legality and requires majority vote for approval. – CMG

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funding for this work is available in the Tourist Development Tax Beach Renourishment Fund (1105) project 90033.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To approve the Work Order for CSA Ocean Sciences, Inc. to continue the required post-construction hardbottom monitoring for the Collier County Beach Nourishment Project in summer 2024 for time and materials not to exceed \$368,494.04 in Tourist Development Tax funds, under Professional Services Agreement No. 22-8015, authorize the Chairman to execute the Work Order, and make a finding that this item promotes tourism.

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