

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Recommendation to approve a budget amendment using Tourist Development Tax to provide funding for post-storm surveys, analysis, and reporting of beach and inlet impacts from Hurricane Milton, and emergency professional consulting services for the purpose of bidding, construction, and post-design services for the dredging of Wiggins Pass, and make a finding that these expenditures promote tourism.**

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**OBJECTIVE:** To expedite the assessment of beach and inlet impacts related to Hurricane Milton, and to accelerate the dredging of Wiggins Pass.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** On October 10, 2024, Hurricane Milton passed offshore of Collier County beaches producing extreme waves and storm surge that heavily eroded County beaches and caused increased shoaling of Wiggins Pass. The County tasked Humiston & Moore Engineers (H&M) with surveying the sand losses from the beaches and dunes to determine the necessary repairs needed to re-establish the protection provided to beachfront structures. H&M were also tasked with surveying, designing, bidding assistance and post-design services for an accelerated dredging project at Wiggins Pass which experienced increased shoaling due to the storm.

On October 21, 2024, the Florida Department of Environmental (“FDEP”) notified the County of the State’s development of a hurricane recovery plan, requesting an estimation of storm damages and the costs necessary to restore the County’s beaches.

On October 23, 2024, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) along with representatives of FDEP, visited the County’s beaches to perform a Preliminary Damage Assessment (“PDA”), to make initial findings and recommendations for potential FEMA and/or FDEP reimbursement of beach restoration costs associated with Hurricane Helene. Preliminary estimates of FEMA Category “G” damages were estimated at \$7,500,000, but post-storm surveys would be required to verify quantities of sand losses.

On October 23, 2024, the County issued an emergency Purchase Order (“PO”) to Humiston & Moore Engineers to perform post-storm surveys, analysis, and reporting of beach and inlet impacts from Hurricane Milton, and emergency professional consulting services for the purpose of bidding, construction, and post-design services for the dredging of Wiggins Pass.

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 on November 14, 2024, and to the Tourist Development Council on November 19, 2024.

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

**FISCAL IMPACT:** A budget amendment is required in the amount of \$200,978.00 to reallocate funding from reserves within TDC Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance Fund (1105) to Hurricane Milton Project No. 50320. The source of funding is the Tourist Development Tax.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To approve a budget amendment using Tourist Development Taxes to provide funding for post-storm surveys, analysis, and reporting of beach and inlet impacts from Hurricane Milton,

and emergency professional consulting services for the purpose of bidding, construction, and post-design services for the dredging of Wiggins Pass, and make a finding that these expenditures promote tourism.

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