

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation to authorize a budget amendment to provide funding for re-grading of beaches damaged by Hurricanes Helene and make a finding that this expenditure promotes tourism.

OBJECTIVE: To expedite the re-grading of County beaches damaged by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

CONSIDERATIONS: On October 10, 2024, Hurricane Milton passed offshore of Collier County beaches producing extreme waves and storm surge that heavily eroded County beaches which had already experienced erosion just a few weeks prior from Hurricane Helene. Beach-front properties were inundated with over-washed sand from both storms and as part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Emergency Final Order issued October 6, 2024, owners were encouraged to replace clean sand back onto the beach where it could be re-graded by the County to pre-storm conditions.

On October 21, 2024, the County issued an emergency Purchase Order (“PO”) to Earth Tech Enterprises to re-grade the numerous sand piles placed along the landward edge of the beach back to pre-storm conditions. Originally had reached out to Ashbritt to perform the re-grade needed on county beaches since they were working on Marco Islands cleanup. Unfortunately, they did not have the equipment needed for the type of work. Earth Tech has been used before for numerous beach projects. Both Ashbritt and Earth Tech are under the same contract (21-7885) Earth Tech was equipped and ready to perform type of work needed. Work began on October 29 and finished November 12th. Completing Marco Island, Barefoot and Vanderbilt Beach.

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 \$538,000, 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 authorize a budget amendment to provide funding for re-grading of beaches damaged by Hurricanes Helene and make a finding that this expenditure promotes tourism.

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