



Memorandum

Date: August 14, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

From: Rey Valdes
City Manager

Department: Carlos Arroyo
Public Works Director

Subject: **Work Order No. 2 for Grant Assistance Services for Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program**

Introduction

This memorandum provides the Public Works Department's (PWD) recommendation for the Mayor and City Councilmembers to approve Work Order No. 2 for EXP U.S. Services, Inc. to assist the City with grant writing professional services. EXP will provide technical assistance with a voucher application form to request funding allocated to the City of Doral under the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy and Efficiency and Conservation Block (EECBG) Program. EECBG has allocated up to \$140,950.00 to implement energy efficiency improvements at the Government Center as per an audit report completed by the University of Miami in September 2023.

Background

The EECBG Program is authorized under Title V, Subtitle E of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA), as amended and signed into Public Law (PL 110-140) on December 19, 2007. The program purpose is to assist states, local governments, and Tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency. Communities can use this flexible source of funding to catalyze long-term, impactful, and self-sustaining plans, projects, and programs that build a clean and equitable energy economy that prioritizes disadvantaged communities and promotes equity and inclusion in workforce opportunities and deployment activities.

In February 2023, Langton Consulting, the City's grant writing consultant at the time, provided the details to the City on the awarded EECBG grant program in the amount of \$140,950.00. This grant is provided to Cities with populations of 35,000 or more. The funding is provided by a formula based on population.

In April 2023, the City submitted a Pre-Award Information Sheet as required by the State & Community Energy Programs for formula awarded entities. The deadline to apply for the EECBG Program formula grants and vouchers has been extended for local governments to October 31, 2024.

In March 2021, the City of Doral Public Works Department (PWD) partnered with Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience's and joined the Building Efficiency 305 (BE305) Challenge. Through the participation in this challenge the City was able to obtain a FREE energy audit for the City's Government Center.

In September 2023, the University of Miami (UM), Department of Industrial Engineering, College of Engineering, Industrial Assessment Center and Data Analytics Lab conducted a four-week audit at the Government Center. The Final report identified and recommended opportunities to conserve energy, minimize waste, and reduce the overall energy cost of the facility. Please see page 7 of the attached UM report for list of recommendations.

In May 2024, the City was notified that the EECBG Program application deadline was extended to October 31, 2024. The PWD requested a proposal from EXP U.S. Services (EXP) for the provision of professional services to prepare and apply for the allocated funding to implement the recommendations on the assessment report as outlined in EXP's proposal dated May 17, 2024 (please see attached). PWD and EXP negotiated the attached proposal in a not to exceed amount of \$20,000.00.

Procurement

The contract between EXP and the City of Doral was procured through the publicly advertised Request for Qualification (RFQ) 2023-08 process to select a pool of pre-qualified Engineering and Architecture firms. This group of eleven (11) firms was approved by the City Council during the March 2024 Council meeting via Resolution No. 24-54 (approved 5-0).

Attached please find "Exhibit A" which includes the proposal from EXP for professional engineering services and a copy of Work Order No. 2.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact for this item involves an estimated fiscal impact of less than \$50,000.00, no further information or analysis is required. Funding for this request is available in the Public Works Fund, "Professional Services" Account, Account No. 001.80005.500310.

Strategic Plan Alignment

This item will follow the Exceptional Service strategic initiative as it aligns with the smart government guidelines for sustainability and resiliency.

Recommendation

The City Staff respectfully requests that the Mayor and City Councilmembers authorize the City Manager to execute the work order (attached) for EXP U.S. Services to provide professional services in an amount not to exceed of \$20,000.00 to prepare an application for the allocated funding to implement the recommendations provided on the UM assessment report.