



CITY OF DORAL COUNCIL MEETING MEMORANDUM

ITEM TITLE:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO UTILIZE THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS) CONTRACT No. 240102 WITH PERRY WEATHER, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTNING DETECTION SYSTEMS AT SIX PARKS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$87,600.00); AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS IN FURTHERANCE HEREOF; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

Approval

BRIEF HISTORY:

Since 2011, the City's Parks and Recreation Department has relied on the Thor Guard Lightning Detection system to warn residents of impending lightning in five of its parks. Although Thor Guard has demonstrated effectiveness in lightning detection, its functionalities are limited, do not fully meet the community's needs, and have become outdated. The system depends on a horn for alerts, which, despite signaling potential danger, often leads to confusion among residents who are uncertain about the alerts meaning. This confusion requires staff to physically have to walk up to individual people and provide explanations, while a storm is approaching. Moreover, individuals wishing to visit the park for leisure or attend programs must contact park staff to inquire about the alarm's status. This requirement becomes particularly problematic during periods of high demand, such as when numerous residents call simultaneously about different sports programs taking place at the park. The proposed upgrade to the Perry Weather Safety system (Perry Weather) presents several advantages that address these shortcomings and provide a more comprehensive safety system:

- **Real-Time Data with Visual Tracking:** Perry Weather offers real-time lightning data, complemented by a visual map tracking system. This not only aids internal operations but significantly improves residents' understanding and awareness of weather threats, a stark contrast to the current system's lack of visual information.

- **Verbal Instruction Alerts:** The system features an advanced audio alert mechanism that provides clear verbal instructions for taking shelter, markedly improving communication clarity and effectiveness over the existing horn-only alerts. This unique feature of Perry Weather addresses a critical communication gap in the current Thor Guard system. This provides communication to those at the park who can't see the alarm or don't understand the sirens.
- **Adjustable Alert Volume:** Perry Weather's alert system offers adjustable sound levels, allowing for customization to suit the community's preferences and needs, enhancing the alert system's flexibility and community compatibility, limiting noise complaints often mentioned by our residents in communities neighboring the parks.
- **Website Integration:** With the ability to integrate a widget on the city's website, Perry Weather significantly enhances how we communicate with residents. This tool enables real-time checks of park status, offering an immediate indication if a park is "All Clear" or on "Alert" for lightning. This level of accessibility fosters a more informed, transparent, and interactive community engagement.

These improvements represent a significant leap forward in our ability to ensure public safety and communicate effectively with our residents regarding weather-related threats.

These systems will replace current systems at: Doral Meadow Park, Morgan Levy Park, Doral Legacy Park and Doral Glades Park. This also includes installing new systems at White Course Park and Trails & Tails Park, which currently do not have lightning detection systems and are heavily frequented parks. Doral Central Park will remain with the new system installed with the project and we'll evaluate after the first year which is included in the project.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: (IF APPLICABLE)

Date:	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: (IF APPLICABLE)

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
1.	\$ 87,600.00	102.90005.500634	PARK IMPROVEMENTS
2.	\$0		
Total:	\$0		
Fiscal Impact Statement: The proposed item has a fiscal impact on revenues and/or expenditures of \$ _87,600.00_____			

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The proposed upgrade to Perry Weather Lightning Detection System is a strategic investment in public safety and operational efficiency. It directly addresses resident feedback on the current system's limitations and introduces advanced features to better serve our parks and community.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- A. TIPS RFP 240102_CONTRACT_Emergency_Perry_WeatherAgreement.
- B. Quote- City Of Doral, FL. - Complete Weather Safety System (purchase)
- C. Draft Resolution.