



City of Galveston

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Brandon N. Hill, MMRM, CCP, Coastal Resources Manager

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Date January 27, 2022

To: Brian Maxwell, City Manager
Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: Brandon N. Hill, MMRM, CCP, Coastal Resources Manager

Project Location: N/A

Project: Survey Equipment Purchase

Request: Consider for approval the purchase of new high precision survey equipment from AllTerra Central – Houston through the Texas Department of Infrastructure Resources Co-Operative Purchasing Contract (DIR-CPO-4504) necessary to performing in-house field survey data collection services in the amount of \$40,833.08. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents upon final approval by the City Attorney.

Prior Council Action

There has been no prior City Council action taken on this item.

Background

One of the ways the City of Galveston tries to utilize competitive pricing for its procurement methods is to leverage its buying power by participating in cooperative purchasing contracts. Purchasing cooperatives save money in two ways: the price of the product and/or in the administrative cost savings from advertising for a formal solicitation.

The City's Coastal Resources Division is experienced in the utilization and training to use Trimble Survey Instruments. In previous roles the Coastal Resources Manager has made good use of Trimble Real Time Kinetic Survey Instruments to monitor beach and dune fluctuations in both seasonal and project-specific studies. The City Engineering Department possesses their own units and trained staff however, it is crucial that the Coastal Resources Division obtain their own unit as they often are in need of survey data in a timeframe which may clash with the engineering department's schedule associated with larger and more complex in-house engineering efforts. These instruments are also paramount in the in-field confirmation of beach parking inventories used to ensure that the community's best interests are represented in pursuit of Open Beaches Act compliance. The City's existing instruments are configured to operate on the existing 3G wireless network in-place here on Galveston Island. In January 2022 the existing 3G network will be upgraded to a new 5G network. This change in network generations will enhance system wide





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capabilities including providing greater reliability across the island moving forward. Unfortunately, this change will also render our existing survey equipment incompatible with the new 5G network. Therefore, additionally necessitating the Coastal Resources Division’s need to obtain a new unit rather than obtain an older unit from in-house.

Understanding that this equipment would be paramount to the divisions’ increased operational vision, staff made a budget request during the preparation of the FY2022 IDC budget to set aside funds to upgrade the equipment. Staff’s budget request is based on a quote from AllTerra Central – Houston, the Trimble Authorized Reseller for the State of Texas. This quote is provided based upon pricing per the Texas Department of Infrastructure Resources Co-Operative Purchasing Contract (DIR-CPO-4504). The quote received includes the purchase of one (1) new GPS receiver unit, one (1) new data collector control instrument and all of the accessories needed for the new equipment for a price of \$40,833.08.

Fiscal Impact Report

The fiscal impact for the purchase of this surveying equipment is currently budgeted for within the approved FY2022 Industrial Development Corporation Beach Silo Budget. Funding for this equipment will come from the Misc. Expenses line item under Coastal Resources Op Ex.

IDC Operating Budget FY 2022		
Line Item	Detail	FY2022 Proposed
Misc. Expenses	Coastal Resources Op Ex	\$ 50,000

Alternatives

1. Approve the purchase of the requested equipment planned for and included in the FY2022 budget.
2. Delay the purchase of this equipment and incur potential additional expenses due to equipment pricing increases as well as experience some down time of our operations due to the reliance on other departments to collect the necessary data.
3. Do not approve the purchase of this budgeted expense and direct the Coastal Resources Division to use alternative methods of data collection which may impact the rate of project expedience and potentially hamper other in-house field survey operations due to the additional work load.





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Staff Recommendation

Approve the purchase of the requested equipment in the amount of \$40,833.08 through the Texas Department of Infrastructure Resources Co-Operative Purchasing Contract (DIR-CPO-4504) per the attached Sales Quote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon N. Hill

Coastal Resources Manager

Attachments

Exhibit A – ALLTERRA Sales Quote SQ-44643

Exhibit B – Authorized Trimble Partner Letter

