



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH™

DATE: October 2, 2019

ISSUE: ArchitectureWorks, LLP Contract for the Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability Design Services

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract for Design Services to ArchitectureWorks for the Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability project in an amount not to exceed \$950,000 (After review and approval of the contract terms by ADCNR).

BACKGROUND: The City was awarded \$9.7M in RESTORE funding to construct a facility that will support ecotourism and environmental education in the Gulf Coast region as part of the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council's Multi-year Implementation Plan. Phase I of the grant agreement is for planning, engineering, and design services for the project.

The City advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for these design services from experienced professional firms to provide all architectural, site planning, permitting, and engineering services for the Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability. Architectural, Design, or other qualified Professional Services firms were invited to submit a response to this RFP.

On July 30, 2019, nine sealed RFQ responses were opened for the project. An RFQ selection committee reviewed the responses and shortlisted three firms for interviews. After the interviews, the selection committee selected the team of ArchitectureWorks and Watershed LLC for the project.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council passed resolution 6148-19 on June 10, 2019 authorizing execution of Phase I of the grant agreement for \$1,020,723.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: The 2019 budget currently includes \$500,000 for this project in Account 42-501-89000. As only a portion will actually be spent in 2019, \$800,000 has been requested in the 2020 budget for the remainder of the project. Costs for this project will be 100% reimbursed through the RESTORE grant.

RELATED ISSUES: None

ATTACHMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

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