



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH™

DATE: April 6, 2020

ISSUE: Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resources Protection Project Professional Services Agreement – Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Authorize Mayor to execute a professional services agreement with Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc. (GMC) to provide engineering, architectural and inspection services as required to design and permit various improvements for the Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection Project in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.

BACKGROUND: The City of Gulf Shores received a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) grant from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) to acquire a 53 acre tract of land formally known as the Laguna Cove development. The NRDA grant also stipulated the City must conserve and restore the natural resources of the property and provide passive outdoor recreation.

The property has 6100 feet of shoreline on Little Lagoon, and has significant areas of wetlands and other critical habitat. Protection of this important natural area will serve to enhance water quality and habitat for the Little Lagoon watershed, while providing passive public recreation opportunities.

The project scope will include:

1. Protection and restoration of critical habitat and wetlands
2. Dune restoration with Fish & Wildlife
3. Public restrooms
4. Low-impact public parking
5. Passive recreation opportunities such as kayaking, birding, and interpretive boardwalks

The City advertised for a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select a qualified firm to provide design services for this project. We received five responses from various firms and scored each firm through an evaluation of eight criteria by a team comprised of four City representatives. GMC scored the highest of the qualifications received, and we therefore recommend them for this project. Once selected, GMC and the City will host one or more public involvement meetings to solicit citizen input as we develop the project.



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PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Acceptance of the NRDA grant and the Laguna Cove property.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: There is \$220,000 budgeted for this contract within the \$1,450,000 in FY 2020, Account #01-501-80911, Land Acquisition and Improvements. All expenditures related to this professional services contract are 100% reimbursed through the NRDA grant.

RELATED ISSUES: NRDA Grant, Laguna Cove property acquisition

ATTACHMENTS: Vicinity Map, GMC Proposal

DEPARTMENT: Executive, Engineering

STAFF CONTACTS: Dan Bond, Mark Acreman