



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH™

DATE: March 16, 2022

ISSUE: Approval of a task order for Olsen Associates, Inc. to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment Survey for work related to Hurricane Nate and Hurricane Sally engineered beach losses.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Task Order 2022-02 from Olsen Associates, Inc. to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment Survey in an amount not to exceed \$54,400 for work related to Hurricane Nate and Hurricane Sally engineered beach losses.

BACKGROUND: The City of Gulf Shores along with the Gulf State Park and Orange Beach collectively performed a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select a qualified engineering firm to assist with developing the restoration project. Olsen Associated was selected as the most qualified firm to perform design and permitting services related to the restoration of our engineered beaches due to damages from Hurricane Nate and Hurricane Sally. The construction of our engineered beach system protected structures and infrastructure, provided wider recreational beaches and created critical habitat for shoreline birds, the Alabama beach mouse and sea turtles. Because of this initial investment and our continued maintenance of our engineered beach and dune systems, these assets are recognized by FEMA as a reimbursable expense should they be damaged due to a declared disaster.

We are currently working with FEMA for authorization to proceed with the final design of the beach restoration project which is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2022 and complete by spring 2023. As part of the FEMA review, we have been asked to provide a Cultural Resource Assessment of the areas that would be impacted by our offshore collection of sand that will be placed on our engineered beaches. To meet this obligation, Olsen has prepared this task order and developed the scope with FEMA's guidance.

Scope Includes:

1. Geophysical Survey using sonar mapping
2. Historical and prehistoric research of the project area
3. Review an interpretation of the historic and sonar finding by a Maritime History and Underwater Archeology expert
4. Assessment of potential impacts and development of mitigation plan to protect any significant cultural resources.



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PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: The City selected Olsen Associates, Inc. to perform design and permitting services related to developing a beach restoration project.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: FEMA & AEMA will reimburse 87.5% of professional services for our engineered beach restoration project which yields a net cost to the City for this Task order of \$6,800.00. There is \$4,937,000 included in the FY 2022 Budget in Account #39-819-81710 Cat G to fund the beach restoration work.

RELATED ISSUES: None

ATTACHMENTS:

- Olsen Associates Task Order
- Engineered Beach Project Map

DEPARTMENT: Engineering

STAFF CONTACT: Mark Acreman