Solid Waste Operations

Memo

TO:

Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

THRU:

Oscar R. Martinez, Assistant City Manager

FROM:

Lawrence Mikolajczyk, Director of Solid Waste Operations

SUBJECT:

Authorizing Debris Removal Resulting from May 10, 2012 Windstorm

Affecting Areas North and West of Rand Morgan Rd. and Extending to

the River Hills Subdivision

DATE:

May 17, 2012

SUMMARY: In the late hours of May 10, 2012, a strong line of thunderstorms swept through the City. While sustained winds of 60 mph were recorded at the Corpus Christi International Airport, with gusts to 70 mph, the northwest area of the City experienced higher winds speeds that toppled trees, broke windows, and damaged fences, roofs, utility lines, and other structures. Most damage is in the area north and west of Rand Morgan R. and extending through the River Hill subdivision.

Solid Waste Operations brush crews responded immediately that evening, and worked through the night to clear trees and debris blocking right of way and access to adjacent private properties. The regular brush collection schedule has been temporarily put on hold so that all departmental resources may focus efforts to clear brush and debris from the area. The volume of brush and debris far exceeds the department's resources available to effectively respond in a timely manner.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- 1. All available department resources are being applied in the effort to remove storm debris from the affected area.
- 2. A quote from DRC Emergency Services, for \$10.47/c.y., was obtained. DRC was contracted to remove debris following the June 24, 2010 wind storm.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

1. Use of an external contractor may be necessary to complete corrective actions to permanently address the situation on a time or cubic yard basis.

CONTRACT AUTHORITY:

The City Manager is authorized to approve contracts in excess of \$50,000 by Charter Art. X, Sec.2(a) in case of an emergency, but such action must be reported to the Council. Additionally, the Local Government Code §252.022(a) exempts this procurement from State competitive bid requirements because it is necessary to:

- 1. preserve the property of the municipality;
- 2. preserve or protect the public health or safety of the municipality's residents; and
- 3. is due to unforeseen damage to public machinery, equipment or other property.

FUNDING:

The cost of the debris removal and brush grinding is unknown at this time. The preliminary estimate is approximately \$500,000. The project will be funded through the General Fund Balance, in excess of policy requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that:

- 1. staff be authorized to administratively issue a Notice to Proceed with the collection and management of storm debris; and
- 2. a finding be made that the instant case is an emergency that invokes the City Charter Art. X, §2(a), necessary to preserve the property of the municipality, protect the public health or safety of the municipality's resident and/or because of unforeseen damage to public machinery, equipment, or property.

CONCUR:

Veronica Ocanas

Assistant City Attorney

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APPROVED

Ronald L. Ofson City Manager Date