



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of April 17, 2018  
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of April 24, 2018

DATE: March 13, 2017

TO: Margie C. Rose, City Manager

FROM: Daniel McGinn, Director of Planning and ESI  
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<p>Consulting Services for RESTORE Act Project Development and Grant Application Preparation and Submittal</p>
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### CAPTION:

Motion authorizing contract with Sarosdy Consulting, Inc., of Austin, Texas, for one year for grant proposal development, submittal and advisor services associated with the RESTORE Act for \$49,595 with options to extend for up to two additional one-year periods with a total potential multi-year amount not-to-exceed \$148,785.

### PURPOSE:

Authorize execution of a one-year contract with two optional renewals with Sarosdy Consulting to assist with development of potential grant applications from the City for relevant buckets of RESTORE Act funds, as available.

### BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) was enacted in July 2012.

According to the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, “The Act calls for a regional approach to restoring the long-term health of the valuable natural ecosystems and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent of civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act, after the date of enactment, by responsible parties in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) for ecosystem restoration, economic recovery, and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. This effort is in addition to the restoration of natural resources injured by the spill that is being accomplished through a separate Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) under the Oil Pollution Act. A third and related Gulf restoration effort is being administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) using funds from the settlement of criminal charges against BP and Transocean Deepwater, Inc.”

There are five buckets of RESTORE Act funding:

Bucket 1 (\$1.9 B) Gulf States Portion, 35 percent, which is divided equally among the five Gulf states to be used for ecological and economic restoration;

Bucket 2 (\$1.6B) Council-Selected Restoration Component, 30 percent of the available funding administered for Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration and protection, according to the Initial Comprehensive Plan developed by the federal RESTORE Act Council

Bucket 3 (\$1.6B) Spill Impact Component, 30 percent is allocated to the states under the according to the formula and regulation approved by the RESTORE Council

Bucket 4 (\$133.3M) 2.5 percent of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Component (plus 25 percent interest earned) dedicated to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring, and Technology Program

Bucket 5 (\$133.3M) 2.5 percent to a Centers of Excellence Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program

The RESTORE Council established the following goals for the program:

Goal 1: Restore and Conserve Habitat

Restore and conserve the health, diversity, and resilience of key coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats;

Goal 2: Restore Water Quality and Quantity

Restore and protect the water quality and quantity of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters;

Goal 3: Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources

Restore and protect healthy, diverse, and sustainable living coastal and marine resources;

Goal 4: Enhance Community Resilience

Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short-and long-term changes; and

Goal 5: Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy

Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

In 2016, the State of Texas requested project proposals for the first round of Bucket 1 funds.

Below are the projects submitted. None of the projects were selected for consideration. However, several projects proposed by Nueces County were selected.

Project Name	Description	Funding Requested
Oso Bay Wetland Preserve Visitor Center and Exhibit Hall	Construct the 2,446 square foot center, with 785 square feet of dedicated space for museum quality educational exhibits, as the last construction phase of the larger Oso Bay Coastal Environmental Learning Center and Wetland Preserve project.	\$1,078,214
Oso Creek/Oso Bay Prairie Land Restoration	Restore 60 acres of coastal prairie through the removal of non-native invasive grasses and Brazilian Peppertree, and the planting of native species at three parks in the Oso Creek/Oso Bay watershed that the City manages as nature preserves.	\$349,000
Acquisition Of Multi-Use Vessel With Trash-Skimming Capabilities	Purchase a custom multi-use vessel to: mechanize floating marine debris removal, reduce human exposure to health hazards of	\$700,000

For Corpus Christi Marina	marine debris; simplify solid waste disposal for collecting marine debris; reduce labor cost for trash skimming and waste disposal, and enhance the emergency response capabilities of the Marina.	
Community-Wide Rainwater Harvesting Program	Establish a Community-Wide Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) Program by offering rebates for the purchase and installation of RWH systems -- non-pressurized (i.e., rain barrels) in households of 8,000 residential customers, as well as pressurized systems (i.e., large cisterns with pumping capacity) in 130 residential and commercial customers, over a three-year period. The City would also engage in a robust public outreach initiative to promote the rebate program and to educate the public about stormwater issues and water conservation.	\$1,664,160
	TOTAL	\$3,791,374

The Governor's Office, Rebuild Texas and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are actively identifying potential projects from coastal communities to address impacts from Hurricane Harvey using Bucket 3 funds. The focus is on economic restoration of coastal communities, especially through ecotourism and community resiliency.. The City staff does not currently have the bandwidth to develop potential Bucket 3 projects which meet RESTORE Act eligibility and Bucket 3 goals. Mrs. Sarosdy's expertise would greatly assist the City in this effort.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Not approve the proposed motion to obtain consulting services to pursue RESTORE Act Funding for various Parks and Rec, Marina, Utility and Environmental Projects.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable

**CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:**

This purchase conforms to the City's purchasing policies and procedures along with the State statutes regulating procurement.

**EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:**

Non-emergency

**DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:**

Planning and ESI, Legal, Intergovernmental Affairs

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

X Operating      ☐ Revenue      ☐ Capital      ☐ Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2017-2018	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget	\$150,00.00		

Encumbered / Expended Amount			
This item	\$49,595.00		
BALANCE	\$100,405.00		

Fund(s): Water Fund

Comments: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the contract with Sarosdy Consulting due to her experience, knowledge, skills and contacts with the highly specialized and unique RESTORE Act process. Funding for the RESTORE Act will be available for many more years and assistance is needed to position the City to take advantage when funds are made available to address infrastructure investments, regulatory mandates, while limiting financial burdens on local tax and rate payers.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Presentation

Contract

Certification of Funds