



April 24, 2019

To: Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
and the Board of County Commissioners

From: Carrie Mathes, Manager, Procurement Division

Contact: David D. Jones, P.E., CEP, Manager, Environmental Protection Division  
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Subject: Award of Contract Y19-1076-TJ, Maintenance and Support of  
Internet Based Orange County Water Resource Atlas

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval to award Contract Y19-1076-TJ, Maintenance and Support of Internet Based Orange County Water Resource Atlas with the University of South Florida for the period of June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2023, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$268,160.

PROCUREMENT:

This contract provides for the continuation of internet based software maintenance and support for the Water Resource Atlas that combines multiple sources of county water data into a single online source accessible by government agencies, scientists, and citizens. The Atlas provides an unlimited number of water resources geographic information housed in several map layers with a user-friendly, interactive website designed to make science and watershed management easily understandable by users of all knowledge levels. This is also an important component to meet state regulatory requirements for the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) rule.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in account 0001-068-2422-3192. The County is reimbursed 57% of the cost from municipal agency partners (Cities of Orlando, Winter Park, Winter Garden, Apopka, Belle Isle, Eatonville, Edgewood, Ocoee, Florida Department of Transportation, and the Valencia Water Control District) through inter-local agreements.

APPROVALS:

The Environmental Protection Division and Information Systems and Services Division concur with this recommendation.

REMARKS:

Since March 15, 2005, the Board has approved contracts with the University of South Florida for the cost of the implementation and maintenance of the Water Resource Atlas. The County's Water Atlas is a cooperative project between multiple agencies that allows for the consolidation of data on lakes, streams, and watersheds. Citizens, agencies, institutions, and scientists can access the site and download information at any time. No other data source is available that holds all of the information in one location such as the Atlas.

As a governmental entity, contracting with the University of South Florida is exempt from the competition requirements of the Procurement Ordinance. The Environmental Protection Division selected the University to implement the Water Atlas for the County because of the unique experience the University gained when developing the technology for six other water atlases and the substantial cost savings associated with using an existing technology.

The management of the County's water resources requires an informed citizenry and the cooperation of multiple government agencies. The County and many municipalities within the County collect water quality, water flow, and water level data for any of the County's lakes and rivers. In addition, the South Florida Water Management District, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the United States Geological Survey and others monitor water quality and habitat value in the County. Despite the abundance of information, no single source exists where all of this data is archived and made readily available to government leaders and staff, scientists, and citizens of the County. The Atlas provides direct access to data and information collected and maintained by the agencies mentioned above. The information system technologies used in the Atlas design include Internet-based GIS, database systems, and database-driven server-side web pages.