



May 31, 2017

To: Mayor Teresa Jacobs
And the Board of County Commissioners

From: Carrie Woodell, Manager, and Procurement Division

Contact: Linda Brooks, Manager, Community Corrections and Inmate Programs
407-836-3089

Subject: Approval of Contract Y17-1118, Basic Construction Education Program for Inmates

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Contract Y17-1118, Basic Construction Education Program for Inmates, with Valencia College for a 1-year term in the total contract award amount of \$200,800. Further request authorization for the Procurement Division to renew the contract for two additional 1-year terms.

PROCUREMENT:

This contract will provide a Basic Construction Education Program for inmates who are 8-10 weeks from release. Program services include classroom instruction and hands-on training.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in account number 1660-081-3820-3197.

APPROVALS:

The Corrections Department concurs with this recommendation.

REMARKS:

The Basic Construction Education Program will provide a basic construction reentry program for inmates housed at Orange County Corrections. Over nine billion dollars of construction projects are planned in the Central Florida area over the next few years. This projected growth has created an excellent opportunity for correctional education and training to engage in the process of reducing recidivism. The construction field presents

career opportunities that are diverse and have potentially higher wages than the wage of an average inmate without skilled training. Inmates receiving general education and vocational training are significantly less likely to return to jail/prison after release. They are also more likely to find employment than peers who do not receive such opportunities.

Each session shall consist of 200 hours (40 hours per week for five weeks) of classroom and hands on instruction in the area of basic construction. There will be a total of 20 inmates per class. Because of the unique partnership with Valencia, upon completion, a graduate receives five certifications to include a national certification in basic construction skills from the National Center for Construction Education and Research. Instructional staff, books, tools, equipment, safety gear and consumable materials to include handouts and construction materials are provided by Valencia College.

The contract amount is considered reasonable based on the evaluation and analysis by County technical staff.

Valencia College is the only local accredited educational institution offering a construction program in a correctional setting. There are multiple challenges for a construction program within a correctional facility: appropriate content, timeframe flexibility, and curriculum management.