

March 27, 2018

Mr. Robert M. Rivera
Public Works Director
City of New Port Richey
6420 Pine Hill Road
Port Richey, Florida 34668

RE: Bid Recommendation – Orange Lake Restoration and Improvements

Mr. Rivera:

On January 11, 2018 at 2:00 PM local time, bid proposals were opened for the above referenced project. Attachment A shows the bid tabulation results containing the bidders' names and the bid prices.

From the bid tabulation results, there were a total of two (2) bids. The distribution of bids were within a similar bid range with the high bid being \$1,462,377.00 and the low bid being \$1,297,796.00. The lowest bid of \$1,297,796.00 was submitted by **Augustine Construction, Inc.** The City has worked with this company before and has had a positive experience with their work quality through previous projects.

The bids were significantly above the project estimate. We have evaluated the bids and determined the majority of the cost difference between the project estimate and the bids is contained within the boardwalk structures and piling installation costs. The boardwalk construction cost estimates were based on the previously bid costs associated with the Sims Park Improvements project that was completed in 2016. Other factors involved in the cost increases include a very active construction market which is resulting in rapidly increasing labor and material costs, and a shortage of active bidders; the delays in the project construction schedule in order to obtain the Restore Act funding; and several elements that were added to the project near the final design completion period.

I have discussed the bid with **Augustine Construction, Inc.** and have been assured that they understand the bid documents and the project scope, and are comfortable with their bid amount and the work that is expected by the City.

Therefore, I am confident that **Augustine Construction, Inc.** is qualified and capable of performing all of the work described in the bid documents and recommend that the City of New Port Richey award this project to them in the amount of one million two hundred ninety seven thousand seven hundred ninety six dollars (\$1,297,796.00).

Sincerely,



Brent A. Heath, P.E.
Senior Engineer