

**Agenda Item:** 3.e

**Meeting Date:** October 9, 2025

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** City Commission

**Through:** Jennifer K. Bramley, City Manager

**From:** Sue Bartlett

**Date:** 2025-10-01

**Subject:** Approval of agreement with Crowdergulf Joint Ventures, Inc., for debris removal from City drainage channels with grant funding from USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP); "Not To Exceed" (NTE) grant funding in the amount of \$1,378,275.

**Presenter(s):** Suzanne "Sue" Bartlett, Public Works Director; Clayton "Clay" Watkins, P.E., Engineering & Utilities Director; Michelle Monteclaro, Assistant Public Works Director; Trevor Bacon, Interim Public Services Manager; and Camille Zoller, Grant Specialist

**Staff Recommendation:** Commission approval of contract agreement with Crowdergulf Joint Ventures, Inc., for debris and vegetative removal from Citywide drainage channels with grant funding from the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP); "Not To Exceed" (NTE) grant funding in the amount of \$1,378,275.

**Strategic Themes:** Environmental Resiliency and Sustainability, Infrastructure, Planning, and Growth

**Boards & Committees:** Stormwater Advisory Committee

**Budget Impact:** This project has been budgeted in the Stormwater Fund Acct. #443-5300-538-056301-SU, under Project #532601.

**Past Action:**

- 1.) June 23, 2023 - Commission approved the Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County to enter into the executed contracts for disaster debris collection and removal services (RFP No. 22-0617-P-AJM), and debris monitoring and management services (RFP No. 22-0601-P-JJ), under Agenda #2.d;
- 2.) November 7, 2024 - Commission approved the First Amendment to the participation agreement with CrowderGulf Joint Ventures, Inc., for disaster debris collection and removal services

as a result of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, under Agenda #2.e; ~ Refer to Exhibit A contained herein for details (including exhibit A, C, & D within that Agenda Item).

**Next Action:** N / A

**Attachments:** [A. Commission Agenda 2e 11.7.24 Agreement with CrowderGulf.pdf](#)  
[B. Pinellas County Amendment\\_Fee.pdf](#)  
[C. City of Dunedin NRCS Estimate.pdf](#)  
[D. City of Dunedin EWP Grant Agreement Award.pdf](#)  
[E. PA Memo Crowder Gulf Joint Ventures Inc. for debris removal.pdf](#)  
[F. Project Location Maps.pdf](#)  
[G. Legal & Purchasing Review Correspondence.pdf](#)

**Background:** As a result of the impacts of Hurricanes Helene and Milton there exists a significant amount of tree and vegetative debris obstructing and blocking drainage channels and creeks throughout Cedar Creek, Curlew Creek, and Jerry Branch watersheds. This vegetative debris and downed trees needs to be removed in order to ensure conveyance of stormwater in the City's drainage channels and to further protect from future flooding impacts.

The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program provides financial and technical assistance to help local communities relieve imminent threats to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences which impact a watershed. Requests for assistance are accepted on a rolling basis, but must be submitted within 60 days of the disaster. The City filed a Request for Assistance on December 7, 2024 following damages to drainage channels sustained during Hurricane Milton, and was summarily invited to apply for funding. No application deadline was imposed, and the City submitted three (3) applications on February 25, 2025: one (1) to clear debris from the Cedar Creek and Jerry Branch drainage areas; one (1) for the repair/replacement of gabions along Cedar Creek; and one (1) of the repair/replacement of gabions along Jerry Branch.

Dunedin's projects were selected for funding and were awarded to the City on April 9, 2025, in the amount of \$4,218,775 in construction costs, and \$421,877.50 for technical items. The funding amount allocated for debris clearing is \$1,378,275. Typically, the EWP Program can require up to a 25% local match; Dunedin's award for these three (3) projects notably does NOT impose any local matching requirements for funding. Following the brief funding freeze at the federal level earlier this year, the funds were released and the City executed the grant agreement

on July 17, 2025.

These projects are critical to restore flow in the major drainage conveyance systems. The clearing project will begin down stream, and will focus on the areas which will result in the greatest impact for flow of water. Purchasing and Legal have reviewed and approved the use of the Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County (refer to Exhibit G), which the Commission approved on June 23, 2023, allowing the execution of contracts for disaster debris collection and removal services (RFP No. 22-0617-P-AJM), and debris monitoring and management services (RFP No. 22-0601-P-JJ).

On November 7, 2024, the Commission approved the First Amendment to the participation agreement with CrowderGulf Joint Ventures, Inc., for disaster debris collection and removal services as a result of Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Refer to Exhibit B for details of the executed agreement for a 5% increase in the line items within the contract.

As such, staff hereby recommends Commission approval of the contract agreement with Crowdergulf Joint Ventures, Inc., for debris and vegetative removal from Citywide drainage channels with grant funding from the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP), as detailed herein, in an amount "Not To Exceed" (NTE) \$1,378,275.