



Engineering Services Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: 11 February 2025

Hurricane Helene Debris Removal Services – Supplemental Funding – Supplement 3

RFP 24-915

File Reference: 24-014 (A)

- Department:** Engineering & Environmental Services
- Presenter:** Dr. Hameed Malik
- Caption:** Approve supplement funding (supplement 3) in amount not to exceed \$15.4 million for Hurricane Helene Debris Removal services with Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. Also approve use of General Fund fund-balance to fund these services. AE/ 24-915
- Background:** Hurricane Helene passed through Augusta-Richmond (ARC) last week (September 26-27, 2024). The entire ARC service area was severely impacted. Hurricane strength winds caused significant trees and infrastructure damage. Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. (Ceres) was mobilized immediately, under Augusta Emergency Procurement policy, for tree debris removal. In addition, Augusta, Georgia initiated request for proposals (RFP) to select a disaster debris removal contractor for continuity of services beyond the emergency contract period and future similar service needs. Ceres was the selected contractor based on RFP evaluation criteria. On November 19, 2024 Augusta Commission awarded the disaster debris removal contract to Ceres. Ceres ongoing services under emergency contract transitioned to this new contract effective January 1, 2025.
- Analysis:** Ceres is providing hurricane Helene debris removal services soon after Hurricane passed through ARC. Ceres services were procured initially on September 30, 2024 for ninety (90) days under Augusta Emergency Procurement policy and Augusta Commission authorized not to exceed (NTE) amount of \$31.3 million (initial & two supplements). As of January 19, 2025 Ceres roughly removed 2.5million cubic year disaster debris and reaching utilization of allocated NTE amount. Recent projected Helene disaster debris total volume is around 3.4million cubic yard. Given debris current projected volume, additional funds in amount of not to exceed \$15.4M be allocated for Ceres to continue its services. It will bring total NTE allocation \$46.7 million. Continuity of ongoing debris removal critical not only for road traffic safety but also public health & safety. Hence continuous funding is needed.
- Financial Impact:** Funds – General Fund fund-balance.

Alternatives: N/A

Recommendation: Approve supplement funding (supplement 3) in amount not to exceed \$15.4 million for Hurricane Helene Debris Removal services with Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. Also approve use of General Fund fund-balance to fund these services. AE/ 24-915 Fund fund-balance to fund these services. / Requested by the Administrator

Funds are available in the following accounts: (\$15,400,000) GENERAL FUND BALANCE - 220-041252-52.21112 / 814000003-52.21112

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY: HM/sr