



Commission Meeting

February 21, 2023

Right of Way Maintenance Quick Strike ARPA Funds Allocation Augusta Engineering File Reference: 23-014 (A)

Department: Engineering & Environmental Services

Presenter: Hameed Malik, Director

Caption: Approve and Authorize Reallocation of Right of Way Maintenance Quick Strike \$1million ARPA funds allocation as; i) \$550,000.00 to Windsor Spring Landscaped segment Irrigation System Installation, ii) \$265,000 to RCCI for Augusta Engineering Roadway & Drainage Vegetation Maintenance FY2023 Services (charge as service provided), and iii) \$185,000 to Vacant Lot Cleanup Program. Also, approve directing Augusta Finance Department issuing Job Ledgers accordingly. Requested by Engineering

Background: In March 2021 passage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and establishment of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) provided great opportunity to advance and accelerate projects enhancing / improving public safety and public recreation. On June 30, 2022, Augusta Commission approved allocation of ARPA funding in amount of \$1 million to the right of way maintenance program.; distribution was \$500,000 for irrigation system construction at Windsor Spring Landscaped segment and \$500,000 for selected Roadways right of way (ROW) mowing. However, Augusta Engineering was not able to get Job Ledger in FY2022 to use these funds for intended purposes. Augusta Engineering is planning to initiate construction of an irrigation system at Windsor Spring landscaped segment and estimated cost is around \$550,000. In FY2023 and onward, Augusta Engineering is able to increase ROW mowing frequency at designated roads from six to eight cycles per year and hence requesting reallocation of balance \$450,000 ARAP allocation to other similar functions as grass cutting by RCCI workforce assigned to Augusta Engineering and Vacant Lot cleanup contract services.

Analysis: Purpose of ARPA funds allocation to ROW maintenance program was to supplement enhance mowing contract services frequency in 2022. In 2023, Augusta Engineering achieved that goal without adding additional funds. Engineering rebid the contract and renegotiated fees yielded increase frequency. Hence, reallocation of the balance of \$450,000 ARPA funds to other similar functions as grass cutting is a productive use and reducing burden on other funds such as stormwater funds.

Financial Impact: Reallocation will free up Stormwater Program and other funds that are needed for completing/providing other services under these programs.

Alternatives:	No Alternative Proposed
Recommendation:	Approve and Authorize Reallocation of Right of Way Maintenance Quick Strike \$1million ARPA funds allocation as follows; i) \$550,000.00 to Windsor Spring Landscaped segment Irrigation System Installation, ii) \$265,000 to RCCI for Augusta Engineering Roadway & Drainage Vegetation Maintenance FY2023 Services (charge as service provided), and iii) \$185,000 to Vacant Lot Cleanup Program. Also, approve directing Augusta Finance Department issuing Job Ledgers accordingly. Requested by Engineering.

Funds are available in the following accounts:	<u>\$1,000,000 ARPA Funds allocation:</u> (\$550,000 to Windsor Spring Landscaped Irrigation
	System Installation; \$450,000 to RCCI for Roadway & Drainage Vegetation Maintenance &
	Vacant Lot Cleanup program; \$265,000 & \$185,000 respectively.)

<u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u>	HM/SR
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