

April 2, 2026
150004-024

Honorable Benjamin Boutwell
Mayor
Town of Century
7995 North Century Boulevard
Century, FL 32535

RE: Freedom Road Bridge Replacement – Notice of Award

Dear Mayor Boutwell:

On October 7, 2025, we received three bids for the above-referenced project, see the attached Certified Bid Tabulation for your records. As you will note each of these bids are well over the available budget of approximately \$1,000,000.

In light of this overage, we have been working with the low bidder in an attempt to get the project into budget and we have also been working with the County (as have you) to get some additional funding. We believe at this point that we have succeeded in both endeavors such that we can recommend awarding the bridge and the required utility infrastructure with only a limited amount of funds required out of the Town's pocket.

To this end, we are recommending that the Town award the entire project to the low Bidder, F&W construction Company, Inc., for their low bid of \$1,612,966.06. Once the project is awarded and the Contract Executed, we will issue a deductive Change Order in the amount of (\$325,716.47) which will reduce the construction cost to \$1,287,249.59. When you add the Grant funding the Town has remaining, and the \$300,000 the County has pledged, there will be enough money available to demolish the existing bridge, build the new bridge, and maintain/relocate the existing utilities. The Town will be responsible for contracting with an engineering firm to complete the Construction Inspection (CEI) work as required by the FDOT Grant Agreement. We believe that the CEI firm will cost anywhere from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

It should be noted that if the Council approves this approach, additional monies would be required to construct the roadway and site improvements such that the bridge would be able to be opened to the public. However, funding it in part like this would allow the Town to utilize the grant funds that are available before they expire and would pay for the costliest portion of the construction. The hope would be that additional funding could be secured to complete this work in the near future.

Honorable Benjamin Boutwell

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We make this recommendation pending approval from the Town Council, confirmation of final Change Order costs from the low bidder, the Town's attorney, and the FDOT Grant Administration staff. We will be present at the next Council meeting to help explain the project and answer any questions from the Council or the public.

Sincerely,

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dale E. Long".

Dale E. Long, P.E., LEED AP
Senior Project Engineer

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Attachments