



PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT

15470 FLIGHT PATH DRIVE ♦ BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604
P 352.754.4020 ♦ F 352.754.4199 ♦ W www.HernandoCounty.us

DATE: 02/16/2026
TO: Joseph Goulart, Contracting Agent
CC: Felicia Holmes, Procurement Manager
FROM: Kerry Jones, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Recommendation for Award of Quote 26-C01237/JG
Solicitation Name: Ridge Manor Water Reclamation Facility Expansion & Emergency Operations Structure.

The attached bid received from Wharton-Smith, INC for the above referenced solicitation is submitted as recommendation for award.

Items 1 through 5 below have been completed.

Total Contract Bid Price for this award is: \$91,569,822.50

- 1. Reference checks are satisfactory: (Reviewed under 26-C01237/JG) X YES ___ NO
If no, provide an explanation using the space provided below and/or attached to this form.
2. Recommend award as responsive and responsible bidder: ___ X YES ___ NO
If no, provide a detailed explanation using the space provided below and/or attached to this form.
3. Request Next Bidder? ___ YES X NO
4. Provide a statement that addresses the reason(s) for your recommendation or rejection. Include your basis for determining that pricing is fair and reasonable and that the Bidder has the ability and resources to perform in accordance with the bid terms, conditions and scope.

Wharton-Smith is capable to construct this project within the contract time and price. Wharton-Smith constructed our Airport Water Reclamation Facility that was comparable in size and complexity and within their contracted time.

- 5. Provide the funding information:
a. Fund 4144 Dept 07244 Account 5626323
b. Fund _____ Dept _____ Account _____

Recommendation Approved By: [Signature] Date: 2.16.26
Department Director/Manager

REFERENCE

Reference For (Firm/Company): Wharton-Smith, Inc.

Company & Person Completing Reference: (Company & First and Last Name of Person Completing this Form):

Company Name: Hillsborough County Water Department

First Name, Last Name: Lizeth Mora

PHONE #: 813-460-6507

Email: morali@hcfl.gov

1. Describe the work contracted to firm/company.
Design-Build Services for the South County AWWTF Expansion Project. Project consisted of the phased expansion of the County's South County AWWTF from 10 mgd to 13mgd.

2. Was the work completed on time?

Yes

3. Were you satisfied with the final results?

Yes

4. Did you implement their recommendations?

Yes

5. Did you encounter any problems?

No

6. How would you rate the company on a scale of 1 to 5 (low to high) on the following:

Professionalism 5

Qualifications 5

Final Product 5

Cooperation 5

Reliability 5

7. Would you contract with this company again?

Yes X

No _____

Maybe _____

Hernando County Use Only

Reference checked by: Completed by Thomas Friedrich of Jones Edmunds

Date: _____

REFERENCE

Reference For (Firm/Company): Wharton-Smith, Inc.

Company & Person Completing Reference: (Company & First and Last Name of Person Completing this Form):

Company Name: Hernando County Utilities

First Name, Last Name: Bruce Batten

PHONE #: (352) 754-4490 Email: bbatten@co.hernando.fl.us

1. Describe the work contracted to firm/company.
Wharton-Smith expanded the existing 3 MGD WRF to a 6 MGD AADF.

2. Was the work completed on time?
Yes

3. Were you satisfied with the final results?
Yes

4. Did you implement their recommendations?
Yes

5. Did you encounter any problems?
No

6. How would you rate the company on a scale of 1 to 5 (low to high) on the following:

Professionalism	<u>5</u>
Qualifications	<u>5</u>
Final Product	<u>5</u>
Cooperation	<u>5</u>
Reliability	<u>5</u>

7. Would you contract with this company again?
Yes No Maybe

Hernando County Use Only Reference checked by: Completed by Thomas Friedrich of Jones Edmunds

Date: _____

REFERENCE

Reference For (Firm/Company): Wharton-Smith, Inc.

Company & Person Completing Reference: (Company & First and Last Name of Person Completing this Form):

Company Name: Orange County BCC

First Name, Last Name: Dan Doetsch

PHONE #: (407) 947-9602 Email: Daniel.Doetsch@ocfl.net

1. Describe the work contracted to firm/company.

Project - Hamlin Water Reclamation Facility.

WS constructed a new 5 MGD waste water facility for Orange County, FL.

2. Was the work completed on time?

Yes

3. Were you satisfied with the final results?

Yes

4. Did you implement their recommendations?

Yes

5. Did you encounter any problems?

No

6. How would you rate the company on a scale of 1 to 5 (low to high) on the following:

Professionalism 5

Qualifications 5

Final Product 5

Cooperation 5

Reliability 5

7. Would you contract with this company again?

Yes Y No _____ Maybe _____

Hernando County Use Only

Reference checked by: Completed by Thomas Friedrich fo Jones Edmunds

Date: _____

TECHNICAL EVALUATION FOR BID AWARD

ITB#

ITB Name

This document has been developed to facilitate your evaluation. Your evaluation should be limited to the attached. **Purchasing will ensure that all documents required by the solicitation are contained for evaluation. This documentation will be included with the bid submitted for evaluation. Bids that are determined non-responsive by the Purchasing Division will not be submitted to you for evaluation.** Please note that you should focus your attention on the areas contained within this document. Your evaluation will be a major consideration as to the responsiveness and/or responsibility of a bidder.

- A. Is the amount of the bid reasonable and realistic for the services to be performed or the item or equipment to be purchased?

If the bid is considered reasonable/realistic, provide justification for your conclusion.

If you consider the bid to be unreasonable and/or unrealistic, please explain in detail.

- B. Was an independent County estimate developed prior to soliciting for the procurement?

If affirmative, submit this estimate with your evaluation in the same format as the bid schedule and describe the extent the estimate was used in the analysis of the bid.

- C. Do the resources (manpower, equipment, supplies, etc.) proposed by the bidder meet the minimum requirements, if any, established by the solicitation?

If minimums were not identified in the solicitation, you may request information on proposed resources from the bidder **through Purchasing.**

TECHNICAL EVALUATION FOR BID AWARD

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When specific types and quantities of equipment are required to meet minimum standards, the bidder may address this requirement by providing purchasing with a pro-forma invoice with confirmation from a bank or lending institution to the effect that they are prepared to finance the lease or purchase of equipment necessary to perform the services if the bidder is awarded the contract.

D. Does the bidder have a satisfactory record of performance?

At a minimum, the bidder's record on previous county contracts must be considered and an attempt must be made to contact all references. The reference form attached is to be used for your documentation of your reference check. If references cannot be contacted, the Department shall contact Purchasing for additional references. Purchasing shall request from the bidder in writing of this fact and inform that the reference must contact the project person within two business days or it will negatively impact the evaluation the bid.

E. Provide your overall recommendation on the Recommendation for Award Form.

Note: At no time will the user/project person/bid evaluator discuss responsiveness, responsibility or withdrawal from the bidding process with any bidder. Moreover, it is strictly prohibited for any County representative involved in the bidding process to attempt to negotiate bids, influence or otherwise impact the business decisions of a bidder.

**Attachment No. 1
Bid Comparison**

		Wharton-Smith, Inc.			
Base Bid Table					
Line Item	Description	QTY	UOM	Unit Cost	Total
1	Mobilization/Demobilization Environmental Protection, Maintenance of Traffic, and General Conditions (not to exceed 8% of the Base Bid)	1	LS	\$6,000,000.00	\$6,000,000.00

Construct Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) Expansion					
2	Influent Flow Meter Assembly	1	LS	\$360,000.00	\$360,000.00
3	Headworks (including Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) Flow-Splitter Box and Odor Control System)	1	LS	\$6,800,000.00	\$6,800,000.00
4	BNR System (including supplemental Carbon Feed and Chemical Analyzers)	1	LS	\$11,489,000.00	\$11,489,000.00
5	Secondary Clarifiers (including Flow Splitter Box)	1	LS	\$8,200,000.00	\$8,200,000.00
6	Chlorine Contact Chamber (including Parshall Flume and Flow Transponder, Chlorine Analyzers, Plant Water/Effluent Clearwell)	1	LS	\$3,100,000.00	\$3,100,000.00
7	Plant Water Pump Station	1	LS	\$335,000.00	\$335,000.00

		Wharton-Smith, Inc.			
Base Bid Table					
Line Item	Description	QTY	UOM	Unit Cost	Total
8	Chlorine Storage Building (including temporary chemical feed system as part of Construction Sequencing, Chlorine Feed Pump Skids, and Dual-Containment Chlorine Storage Tanks)	1	LS	\$610,000.00	\$610,000.00
9	Rapid Infiltration Basins (RIBs) (including Embankment Excavation, Filling and Grading, and Construction Sequencing)	1	LS	\$2,200,000.00	\$2,200,000.00
10	Aerated Sludge Tanks (including Construction Sequencing and Existing Aerated Sludge Tank modifications)	1	LS	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00
11	Dewatering Building	1	LS	\$1,350,000.00	\$1,350,000.00
12	Vacuum Truck Dump Station	1	LS	\$1,025,000.00	\$1,025,000.00
13	Plant Drain Pump Station No. 1 Upgrades (including Construction Sequencing)	1	LS	\$215,000.00	\$215,000.00
14	Plant Drain Pump Station No. 2	1	LS	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
15	Yard Piping (including Plant Water Loop, Potable Water, Force Mains Drainage System and Stormwater Pond Expansion, and RIB Piping)	1	LS	\$15,150,000.00	\$15,150,000.00

		Wharton-Smith, Inc.			
Base Bid Table					
Line Item	Description	QTY	UOM	Unit Cost	Total

Jones Edmunds & Associates - 100% Engineers Opinion of Probable Construction Costs	
\$	6,385,000.00
\$	420,000.00
\$	7,300,000.00
\$	15,120,000.00
\$	8,120,000.00
\$	4,000,000.00
\$	400,000.00
\$	700,000.00
\$	2,750,000.00
\$	7,050,000.00
\$	2,320,000.00
\$	1,210,000.00
\$	450,000.00
\$	550,000.00
\$	6,900,000.00

**Attachment No. 1
Bid Comparison**

16	Electrical Instrumentation, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)Components (including Electrical Buildings No. 1 and No. 2)	1	LS	\$19,000,000.00	\$19,000,000.00
17	Abandonment of one Background Monitoring Well and Installation of two New Monitoring Wells	1	LS	\$29,000.00	\$29,000.00
18	Construct Emergency Operations Structure	1	LS	\$1,850,000.00	\$1,850,000.00
Existing Site and Facility Demolition					
19	Demolish and Remove Existing Influent Flow Meter Assembly	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
20	Demolish and Remove Existing Headworks	1	LS	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
21	Demolish and Remove Existing Oxidation Ditch	1	LS	\$115,000.00	\$115,000.00
22	Demolish and Remove Secondary Clarifiers	1	LS	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
23	Demolish and Remove Existing Chlorine Contact Tank	1	LS	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
24	Demolish and Remove Existing Effluent Pump Station	1	LS	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
25	Demolish and Remove Existing WRF Generator and Covered Diesel Fuel Tank	1	LS	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00

\$	21,380,000.00
\$	50,000.00
\$	1,940,000.00
\$	20,000.00
\$	60,000.00
\$	400,000.00
\$	370,000.00
\$	120,000.00
\$	130,000.00
\$	120,000.00



Line Item	Description	QTY	UOM	Unit Cost	Total
26	Demolish and Remove Existing Motor Control Center	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
27	Demolish and Remove Existing Chemical Storage Building	1	LS	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00
28	Demolish and Remove Existing Plant Drain Pump Station Pumps, Pump Rail System, Wet Well Piping, Valve Vault, and Controls	1	LS	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
29	Demolish and Remove Concrete Walkways and Asphalt Pavement	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
30	Demolish and Remove Yard Piping Where Shown on Contract Drawings	1	LS	\$44,000.00	\$44,000.00
31	Perform Wildlife Survey and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Permitting	1	LS	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
32	Existing Lift Station Upgrades and 12-Inch Force Main Construction	1	LS	\$158,000.00	\$158,000.00
33	Gopher Tortoise Burrows to be Excavated	98	EA	\$600.00	\$58,800.00
34	Gopher Tortoise Relocation Off Site	49	EA	\$3,500.00	\$171,500.00
35	Soil Stabilization and Finished Grading	103840	CY	\$2.50	\$259,600.00
36	Sodding	138940	SY	\$5.00	\$694,700.00

\$	120,000.00
\$	50,000.00
\$	15,000.00
\$	20,000.00
\$	50,000.00
\$	-
\$	350,000.00
\$	-
\$	560,000.00
\$	400,000.00
\$	800,000.00



Line Item	Description	QTY	UOM	Unit Cost	Total
Asphaltic Paving					
37	12-Inch Type B Stabilized Subgrade (LBR 40)	16825	SY	\$8.50	\$143,012.50
38	8-Inch Limerock Base (LBR 100)	15675	SY	\$16.00	\$250,800.00

\$	150,000.00
\$	300,000.00

