



MEMORANDUM

TO: A. Jerome Fletcher II, ICMA-CM, MPA, City Manager **Jerome Fletcher**
Digitally signed by Jerome Fletcher
 DN: cn=A. Jerome Fletcher, o=City of North Port, ou=City of North Port, cn=Jerome Fletcher, email=j.fletcher@northport-fl.gov, c=US

THROUGH: Juliana B. Bellia, Assistant City Manager **Juliana B. Bellia**
Digitally signed by Juliana B Bellia
 Date: 2025.11.14.14.19.33-0500

FROM: Irina Kukharensko, CPA, Finance Director **Irina Kukharensko**
Digitally signed by Irina Kukharensko
 Date: 2025.11.14.13.19.02-0500

Valerie Malingowski, Grants Division Manager **Valerie Malingowski**
Digitally signed by Valerie Malingowski
 Date: 2025.11.14.12.54.26-0500

DATE: November 13, 2025

SUBJECT: FEMA Implications for Direct Select of CMAR – Kayak Launch Repairs

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting to “direct select” Jon F. Swift Construction from the City’s CMAR library of five firms to complete the kayak launch repairs at Marina Park and the two kayak launch repairs at Water Control Structure #117 resulting from Hurricane Ian damages.

Regarding the five CMAR firms currently listed in the library:

- Halfacre was initially direct selected for the Marina Park repairs but was unable to meet the Army Corps permitting requirements.
- Wharton-Smith successfully completed the Dallas White Park kayak launch repairs; however, the project faced delays and significant challenges.
- Willis Smith and Ajax Construction are presently unavailable due to commitments to other projects.
- Jon F. Swift has demonstrated the ability to successfully navigate the Army Corps permitting process and successfully completed six kayak launch replacements, leading project team to recommend assigning the work directly to this contractor.

While the operational rationale is understandable, it is important to note that a “direct select” approach does not allow for open competition. In addition, the CMAR library was established through a qualifications-based method without price competition. Selecting a single contractor without a competitive pricing component may therefore place the FEMA reimbursement eligibility of the related expenditures at risk. The current estimate for the three kayak launches is approximately \$300,000, with an estimated 80% FEMA reimbursement of about \$218,000 after insurance proceeds.

Proceeding with “direct select” is ultimately a business decision by the City, but it should be done with clear understanding that FEMA may determine the expenditures to be ineligible. While FEMA reimbursement is always a priority, there are instances where operational needs cannot be delayed and the City may need to move forward despite this risk. Conducting a federally compliant competitive solicitation would strengthen reimbursement eligibility but may extend the project timeline.

This memo is provided to outline the circumstances and potential implications associated with the requested approach.