

Responses to Bidders Request for Additional Information via email and during the Pre-bid Meeting

Project Name: Phillippi Creek Maintenance Dredging Project
Project Number: 137125
Date: October 31, 2025

This document provides responses to questions and requests for clarification related to the Phillippi Creek Maintenance Dredging Project Bid Package. These responses include items discussed during the Pre-Bid Meeting held on October 23, 2025, as well as written questions received via email during the formal Request for Information (RFI) period, which closed on October 29, 2025. The following information is intended to ensure consistency, transparency, and a clear understanding of the bid requirements prior to bid submission.

Since the issuance of the bid solicitation and the pre-bid meeting, additional clarifications have been made to the bid documents and supporting materials. These include the following:

Technical Specifications Clarification

Please note that in Section 2.7 of the Technical Specifications, under the bullet for *Hydraulic Dredging*, there is a reference to TS-6.5.3. This should correctly reference TS-3.12.2.

Disposal Site Clarification

Following bid issuance, two upland disposal sites have been identified for the placement of non-contaminated dredged material. Attachment No. 1 provides overview maps of each site. Site No. 1 (Lorraine Road Project) will serve as the primary disposal location, and Site No. 2 (Albritton Site) will serve as the secondary disposal location.

- Lorraine Rd Project
 - o Parcel ID: 0231022610
 - o Location: Approx. 1 mile north of Palmer Blvd / Lorraine Rd intersection (see Lorraine attachment). Approx. 2 miles north of Bee Ridge Rd / Lorraine Rd intersection.
- Albritton Site (County-owned; managed by Solid Waste Dept.)
 - o Parcel ID: 0303001010
 - o Location: Approx. 1.2 miles east of Lorraine Rd / Clark Rd intersection and immediately west of Sarasota National Cemetery (see Albritton attached).

1. The cross sections provided do not show over-draft tolerances. Is there a tolerance above or below the design depth of -4 ft Mean Low Water (MLW)?
[A tolerance of +/- 6 inches is acceptable for the specified navigable depth, per Section 2.5 of the Technical Specifications.](#)
2. Will an engineer's estimate be provided?
[An engineer's estimate will not be provided.](#)
3. Is there a budget for this project?
[There is a budget for Section 1 \(Area 1\), but not for Section 2 \(Area 2\).](#)
4. The FDEP Permit states this is Outstanding Florida Water. This means no turbidity above background. This can not be performed by Mechanical or Hydraulic dredging. The Weeki Wachee Project is evidence to this. The hydraulic contractor tried to perform this work simply using turbidity curtains. The owner determined this did not meet Water Quality Standards and found the contractor in default. It was determined that the only way this project could be completed and meet Outstanding Water Quality Standards was using divers and a suction hose connected to a small pump. It was completed but not in the time frame outlined in the bid specs. It took 3 years to remove less than 30,000 CY. Phillippi Creek is a 30' cut down the middle of the creek. Tidal flow will lift turbidity curtains. This is not a means and methods issue. This cannot be done and this constitutes a defective specification.

The Question is. Can the Owner apply to FDEP for a variance on turbidity? This entire event was caused by a hurricane and special circumstances allow for special conditions.

If the engineer could take samples and determine tidal velocities and settlement times then a reasonable mixing zone could possibly be allowed in a Permit Modification.

[The Florida Department of Environmental Protection issued a "corrected permit" properly classifying Phillippi Creek as a Class III waterbody with turbidity monitoring requirements of turbidity curtain barriers and typical turbidity monitoring, outlined in the Technical Specifications. Attachment 2 provides a copy of the Corrected Permit.](#)

5. **Are the dumping fees at Sarasota County Landfill waived?** The project description states that all material go to the landfill or approved upland site. Upland Sites can not be approved prior to bid so all material needs to be priced going to the landfill. After the bid is awarded a proposed upland site would offer savings to the Owner and then be presented as Value Engineering.
[No. Please contact the Sarasota County Landfill to confirm fee rates.](#)
6. One sample for each 1000 CY needs to be taken and sampled. All material as stated will go to the landfill. A sample showing higher arsenic levels should not be an issue after the fact as it is going to the landfill. There is no room to stockpile 200 CY much less 1000 CY. It usually takes 5-7 days to get sample results on heavy metals. **How do you want these samples taken?** If you want to wait on results before shipping you probably need to add a year to the completion time. If the contractor has a method to process the dredge material and assure compliance on heavy metals using science or mathematics then he

needs to present it as Value Engineering and offer savings to the Owner after the bid is awarded.

The Contractor should verify all testing requirements with final disposal site. Sarasota County Solid Waste currently requires 5 discrete samples for volatile organics and 5 composite samples for non-volatile organics for the first 1,000 CY (1,400 tons) of material disposed. For each additional 500 CY (700 tons) the landfill requires a single (1) discrete sample for volatile organics and a single (1) composite sample for non-volatile organics. Alternative disposal locations may have different requirements.

7. The contractor needs to determine how many certified surveys are required. What length constitutes a Compliance Section?

Pre-dredge and post-dredge survey lines should be 50 feet apart or less.

8. What is the clearance for the 2 bridges under Hwy 41?

Per Section 2.8 of the Technical Specifications, the Contractor shall be responsible for field verifying all bridge clearances prior to the commencement of work. Verification shall include measurement of vertical and horizontal clearances under current site conditions, accounting for tidal variation, water level fluctuation, and any obstructions that may affect access or navigation. Please refer to Section 2.8 of the Technical Specifications for restrictions on dredging operations near bridges.

9. I'm currently reviewing the Instructions to Bidders (ITB), and it mentions an enclosed "Preliminary Construction Plan". But I don't see a form with that name. Would Bidder's Questionnaire on page 17 be the Preliminary Construction Plan, or is the plan a separate document?

Please see Attachment No. 3 that provides the Preliminary Construction Plan. This is a separate document from the original bid package.