

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** George L. Horne, Deputy Executive Director, Operations and Maintenance

**DATE:** August 1, 2005

**SUBJECT: Contract No. C-15131-A03, C-4 Flood Mitigation Program, Sweetwater Fence**

### **Background**

This work was approved by the District and Miami-Dade's Local Mitigation Strategy Team to reduce flooding in the C-4 Western Basin. Flooding conditions in the Cities of Sweetwater, West Miami, and Miami caused by Hurricane Irene, October 1999 and No Name storm, October 2000 raised awareness.

The original agreement between the South Florida Water Management District and the Department of Community Affairs was executed September 17, 2002. Two subsequent amendments extended the completion date to August 14, 2004 and included raising the north bank of the C-4 Canal between SW 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Florida Turnpike.

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration) and DCA (Department of Community Affairs) required that the District place a fence along the top of bank of the C-4 Canal between SW 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Florida Turnpike. This requirement was brought to FEMA and DCA's attention by the City of Sweetwater

The Hurricane Irene Disaster is scheduled to be closed out by FEMA no later than June 2006. It would be difficult to have FEMA open a new project for Irene with a close out date of June 2006. However, DCA is willing to reinstate this contract by amendment and extend the close out date for the additional work.

Furthermore, DCA will require this contract to be amended to include the construction of the Sweetwater Berm and Belen dredging projects, when funds are obligated by FEMA for these future projects.

### **How this helps meet the District's Mission**

This work is part of C-4 Flood Mitigation Program in Miami-Dade County to improve flood protection in the western C-4 Basin.

**Funding Source:** Funding is provided by a grant from FEMA and DCA to reduce flooding in the western C-4 basin due flooding events from Hurricane Irene (October 1999) and the No-Name storm (October 2000).

### **This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:**

This contract provides funding to the Engineering and Construction Department to complete the design work for Sweetwater Fence.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?**

There are no concerns on this item. This project is supported by the Miami-Dade County Commissioners, Miami-Dade Local Mitigation Strategy Team, and the Cities of Sweetwater, West Miami and Miami.

**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?**

FEMA and DCA require this work to be completed.

GLH/kj