

COMMITTEE REPORT

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO

The **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from the Service-Safety Director to appropriate funds for the Blanchard River Sediment Control Project No. 31954800 (Ordinance No. 2016-031).

FROM: General Fund \$ 7,250.00
TO: Blanchard River Sediment Control Project No. 31954800 \$ 7,250.00

We recommend *TABLE FOR FURTHER INFO*

Aye Nay *R. Ronald Monday*
R. Ronald Monday, Chairman

Aye Nay *ABSENT*
John Harrington

Aye Nay *Thomas H. Klein*
Tom Klein

Aye Nay *Grant Russel*
Grant Russel

Aye Nay *Jeff Wobser*
Jeff Wobser

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: April 12, 2016

LEGISLATION _____



April 4, 2016

Mr. Paul Schmelzer, P.E., P.S.
Safety - Service Director
City of Findlay
318 Dorney Plaza, Room 310
Findlay, Ohio 45840

Re: Riverside Park and Osborn Bridge Mussel Surveys and Riverside Park Sediment Management Services Scope of Work for the City of Findlay, Hancock County, Ohio; FIN004.100.0004

Dear Mr. Schmelzer:

Hull & Associates, Inc. (Hull) is a project development, energy, and engineering consulting firm with significant interest and experience in water resource management and habitat restoration. We help clients tackle complex challenges related to land, energy, and the environment by developing innovative, sustainable solutions for premier projects nationwide. Hull has experience completing ecosystem restoration and sediment management services and we are well positioned to help the City complete these projects.

On March 8, 2016, Hull presented the results of the Riverside Park Sediment Management Report to the Hancock County Commissioners and representatives from the City of Findlay and Blanchard River Watershed Partnership. Hull identified several data gaps that need to be addressed prior to moving forward with the project. One of these data gaps was the completion of a mussel survey in the proposed project area. Additionally, proposed sediment management options should be coordinated with state and federal agencies to identify potential funding opportunities and/or permits that might be needed. Hull submitted a scope of work to complete these tasks on March 18, 2016.

Subsequently, the City of Findlay requested that the Osborn Bridge area be added to the scope of work. Hull is pleased to present to the City of Findlay the attached scope of work to complete mussel surveys within the Osborn Bridge and Riverside Park areas, and coordinate preliminary sediment management options identified in our report with state and federal agencies to advance the Riverside Park Sediment Management Project.

Hull will team with EnviroScience, Inc. to complete the mussel surveys. EnviroScience, Inc. is a team of over 100 expert biologists, commercial divers, environmental scientists, and environmental engineers headquartered in Ohio. EnviroScience is often considered a "niche" environmental consultant due to their ecological consulting focus and nationally-recognized ecological services and environmental compliance for freshwater mussels, bats, fisheries, aquatic surveys, and stream and wetland management. For example, EnviroScience has completed nationwide surveys of streams, rivers, coastal areas, and other aquatic resources under the five-year National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) contract with USEPA. EnviroScience has extensive experience performing mussel surveys for federal, state, and local transportation projects. In addition, EnviroScience has conducted surveys associated with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit modifications and dredging operations.

Included in Attachment A is the Task Order and Scope of Work to complete:

- Mussel Survey of the Riverside Park Area;
- Coordination of Preliminary Riverside Park Sediment Management Options with Agencies; and
- Mussel Survey of the Osborn Bridge Area.

It is important to note that the mussel survey tasks do not include any relocation of non-federally-listed mussels. Relocation of non-listed mussels, if indicated, would need to take place just prior to dredging

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April 5, 2016
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during the same season. In the unlikely event federally listed mussel species are identified, a Biological Assessment (BA) would need to be performed, also at additional cost. The level of effort and costs for these activities, if needed, cannot be developed until the mussel surveys are complete.

Hull and EnviroScience, Inc. are experts in sediment management and endangered mussel surveys. We appreciate the opportunity to complete the Riverside Park Sediment Management Report and we look forward to continuing to serve the City and Hancock County in advancing this project through identification of funding opportunities and addressing data gaps.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. We appreciate look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Kristin Gardner, M.S.
Scientist II

Attachment

ATTACHMENT A

Task Order

**ATTACHMENT A
FOR
MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

HULL & ASSOCIATES, INC.

TASK ORDER NO:	<u>001</u>
HULL PROJECT CODE:	<u>FIN004</u>
CONTRACT NUMBER:	<u>CNTRCT.300.3271</u>

Subject to the terms and conditions of the above referenced Contract, the Consultant agrees to perform the following Scope of Work as follows:

Task 1 Mussel Survey of the Riverside Park Area

Task 1A Mussel Survey

\$5,000

The Blanchard River is a Group 2 river, meaning there is a potential for federally listed mussel species to be present. As a result, a federal permit to conduct a mussel survey is required. Hull and its subcontractor EnviroScience will develop a mussel survey procedure and coordinate the work plan with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Upon approval of the work plan, Hull and its subcontractor will complete a mussel survey within the project area. It is expected that the survey will include both qualitative and quantitative survey methods.

The survey will be completed in one (1) day, during the approved survey period of May to October, by Hull and its subcontractor in accordance with the April 2015 Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol.

Task 1B Mussel Identification

\$5,000

If mussels are found to be present as a result of the survey described in Task 1A, Hull and its subcontractor will characterize the habitat and mussel population present.

This task will take up to two (2) days to complete and will be completed during the approved survey period of May to October by Hull and its subcontractor in accordance with the April 2015 Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol using timed search survey methods.

Note: This task does not include any relocation of non-federally-listed mussels. Relocation of non-listed mussels, if indicated, would need to take place just prior to dredging during the same season. In the unlikely event federally listed mussel species are identified, a Biological Assessment (BA) would need to be performed, also at additional cost. Costs to complete these activities can be developed upon request by the Client.

Task 1 Total: \$10,000

Task 2 Coordination of Preliminary Riverside Park Sediment Management Options with Agencies

Various sediment management options (e.g., dredging, dam modification, dam removal) will be coordinated with local, state and federal agencies to identify potential funding opportunities and project constraints related to each option. It is anticipated that the proposed options will be coordinated through a "project scoping document" and submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.

It is estimated to take two weeks to submit the scoping document to the agencies. Another 30-60 days should be allowed to receive comments from agencies and summarize the results.

Hull will complete a final letter report discussing the findings of the mussel survey and agency coordination.

Task 2 Total: \$4,000

Task 3 Mussel Survey of the Osborn Bridge Area

Task 3A Phase 1 Mussel Survey \$6,900

The Blanchard River is a Group 2 river, meaning there is a potential for federally listed mussel species to be present. As a result, a federal permit to conduct a mussel survey is required. Hull and its subcontractor EnviroScience will complete a Phase 1 mussel survey within the project area in accordance with the ODNR/USFWS Bridge Replacement Protocols.

The survey will be completed in approximately 1.5 days during the approved survey period of May to October.

Task 3B Phase 2 Mussel Survey \$6,600

If federally listed mussels are present as part of the survey described in Task 3A, Hull and its subcontractor will complete a Phase 2 mussel survey, per the ODNR/USFWS Bridge Replacement Protocols.

This task will take 1.5 days to complete and will be completed during the approved survey period of May to October by Hull and its subcontractor.

Note: This task does not include any relocation of non-federally-listed mussels. Relocation of non-listed mussels, if indicated, would need to take place just prior to dredging during the same season. In the unlikely event federally listed mussel species are identified, a Biological Assessment (BA) would need to be performed, also at additional cost. Costs to complete these activities can be developed upon request by the Client.

Hull will complete a letter report discussing the findings of the mussel survey.

Task 3 Total: \$13,500

NUMBER OF COPIES OF DELIVERABLE: One PDF

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$27,500

HULL & ASSOCIATES, INC. PROJECT CONTACT: Kristin Gardner

CLIENT PROJECT CONTACT: Paul Schmelzer

CLIENT AUTHORIZATION: _____ DATE: _____

(Please return one signed original to Hull & Associates, Inc.'s Project Contact and retain one signed original for Client's records)