



Office of the
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR**

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

DATE: October 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Debris Collection Post-Hurricane Ian

Background & Discussion

Staff requests discussion regarding debris collection post-Hurricane Ian. Currently, staff estimates a total of approximately 30,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris following this event. This is a substantially lower amount of debris than we have experienced with recent event such as Hurricane Matthew (87,505 cubic yards) and Hurricane Irma (187,804 cubic yards). This amount of debris is still presenting a challenge for the current methods of collection being utilized. We have been directing residents of the unincorporated areas to either take their vegetative debris to one of our five (5) customer convenience centers or the landfill. Also, residents who subscribe to Waste Management collection have been advised that they can place their yard debris for collection per the terms of the franchise agreement (up to 4 cubic yards, less than 3' diameter debris). It should be noted that the volumes experienced are significantly more that what they pick up in a normal week. Public Works is working to clear the larger debris that is along our main roadways with our two (2) claw trucks as well. We also authorized an emergency purchase order for two (2) claw trucks to supplement our own forces for this week, but this vendor will not be available going forward. Unfortunately, this will take some time to clear with our current resources.

Staff is presenting the option to utilize our emergency debris clearing contractor if we want to supplement the current resources available. Based upon this amount of yard waste, the estimated cost to utilize our debris contractor and debris monitor to clear this debris would be approximately \$750,000. On October 6, 2022, staff received notification that the County is now eligible for reimbursement of all categories of FEMA claims which includes debris collection. These costs will be reimbursed by FEMA at 100% for the first 60 days following the storm event.

Staff Recommendation

Based upon the additional debris that has piled up along with the FEMA approval for debris removal expenses, staff recommends the Board authorize staff to mobilize CERES, the County's contracted emergency debris disposal contractor along with Debris Tech, our emergency debris removal monitoring provider.