

## **MEMORANDUM**

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February 17, 2026

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Commission

**VIA:** James Slaton, City Manager  
Sarah B. Kirkland, Public Works Director

**FROM:** Nancy C Hernandez, Public Works Operation Manager

**SUBJECT:** Stormwater Equipment Acquisition – Combination Sweeper with Vacuum-Assisted Capability

**SYNOPSIS:** Staff is requesting authorization to procure a combination street sweeper equipped with vacuum-assisted (vactor-style) storm drain cleaning capabilities to enhance the City’s stormwater response capacity.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the City Commission consider taking the following action:

1. Authorize the City to piggyback the Florida Sheriffs Association cooperative purchasing contract (FSA Bid No. FSA23-EQU21.0) for the acquisition of equipment.
2. Authorize the City to proceed with the purchase of a combination sweeper through Container Systems & Equipment Co., Inc., utilizing the cooperative contract.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary agreements and related documents on behalf of the City.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Lake Wales currently relies on a contracted vendor for routine street sweeping services. While effective for scheduled maintenance, contracted services are limited in their ability to respond immediately during storm events, emergency flooding conditions, or situations requiring subsurface storm drain cleaning.

Traditional street sweepers operate primarily at the surface level. In contrast, a combination sweeper with vacuum-assisted capability allows for the removal of debris and obstructions below storm drain grates and inlets—an essential function during heavy rainfall events when rapid debris removal can significantly reduce localized flooding risks.

As the City continues to strengthen its internal stormwater operations, staff has identified this equipment as a strategic asset that would allow Public Works to respond more quickly during storm events, support emergency operations, and reduce reliance on delayed or unavailable contracted services during critical periods.

This equipment is not intended to replace the City's existing sweeping contract. Rather, it would be deployed selectively for emergency response, post-storm cleanup, and targeted drainage maintenance where immediate action is required.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Staff evaluated multiple acquisition options, including outright purchase and vendor-provided financing, and determined that a municipal lease through Bancorp best balances fiscal impact, cash preservation, and long-term asset ownership.

### **ATTACHMENT**

Container Systems Quote

Sheriff's Contract piggyback

Bancorp Lease Schedule

Container Systems Lease option