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Title: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH MARINE RESEARCH SPECIALISTS TO PROVIDE ON-CALL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES (CITY COUNCIL)

Sponsors: Community Services

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Ex. No. 1 - Executed Marine Research Specialists contract, 2. Ex. No. 2 - Draft Marine Research Specialists Amendment No. 1

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Report to Mayor and City Council

Tuesday, October 01, 2019

Consent

SUBJECT:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH MARINE RESEARCH SPECIALISTS TO PROVIDE ON-CALL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES (CITY COUNCIL)

I. SUMMARY

On October 18, 2016, the City and Marine Research Specialists (“MRS”) entered into an agreement for on-call environmental consulting services (Exhibit No. 1). These services are necessary to prepare Environmental Impact Reports, Environmental Assessments, peer reviews and other environmental assignments. The services provided by this consultant are very specialized and require an in-depth technical analysis of the environmental impacts of the projects staff is not able to provide, so hiring specialized full-time staff would not be feasible. Currently, the City uses four (4) firms to provide these on-call services.

MRS’ scope of services also includes preparation or review of studies in accordance with CEQA guidelines, environmental analysis, and initial studies, as well as evaluations and recommendations for appropriate action by the City. The Consultant may represent the Planning Division’s project team at meetings/hearings and make presentations as necessary.

The term of the original agreement was from October 18, 2016 to October 17, 2019, with the City's option to renew the agreement for two additional one-year terms. The contract sum was a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000 per year. The entire cost incurred for these consulting services is offset by funds deposited by developers. Staff is requesting approval of the proposed Amendment No. 1 (Exhibit No. 2) to extend the term of the contract for the first of the two optional years for \$250,000. This amendment is necessary to allow for continued environmental consulting services for development proposals throughout the City for the next year.

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. APPROVE Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Marine Research Specialists for a one-year extension for on-call environmental consulting services, from October 18, 2019 through October 17, 2020, at a cost not-to-exceed \$250,000.
2. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute the agreement, following approval as to form by the City Attorney.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE any other action the City Council deems appropriate and is consistent with the requirements of law.

IV. BACKGROUND

The City of Carson uses on-call consultants on an as-needed basis to prepare or review environmental documents for development projects proposed by private developers and projects proposed by the City. Typical documents prepared by consultants include Environmental Impact Reports, Addenda and Mitigated Negative Declarations prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), and Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements prepared to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA").

The City retained Marine Research Specialists (MRS) via a Request for Proposals ("RFP") process in 2016. Staff issued a RFP on July 6, 2016 to identify, select, and recommend a qualified firm to assist the City in environmental analysis consulting services. On July 28, 2016, the City received fourteen proposals from experienced firms. A selection committee reviewed the proposals and evaluated each firm on the criteria set forth in the RFP, including proposal completeness, qualification and experience, understanding of City issues and costs. After an extensive review, MRS was recommended by the selection committee.

On October 18, 2016, the City and MRS entered into an agreement for on-call environmental consulting services. The term of the agreement was from October 18, 2016 to October 17, 2019, with the City's option to renew the agreement for two additional one-year terms. The contract sum was a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000 per year. Staff is requesting approval of the proposed Amendment No. 1 to extend the term of the contract for the first of the two optional years for \$250,000. This amendment is necessary to allow for continued environmental consulting services for development proposals throughout the City for the next year.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

This agreement has a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000 per year for one year. The entire cost incurred for consultant services is offset by funds deposited by developers. Funds for this service were budgeted in account 101-70-780-290-6004 for FY 2019/20.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Agreement with Marine Research Specialists. (pgs. 4-46)
2. Amendment No. 1 with Marine Research Specialists. (pgs. 47-52)

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