

Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
December 17, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: (Christine Daniel, City Manager

Submitted by: Andrew Clough, Director, Public Works

Subject: Contract: Traffic Development Services for Electronic Traffic Calming

Devices Replacement Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution:

- Approving plans and specifications for the Electronic Traffic Calming Devices
 Replacement Project, Specification No. 14-10802-C and accepting the bid of Traffic
 Development Services; and
- 2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Traffic Development Services for the replacement of non-operational electronic traffic calming devices for the period January 15, 2014 to January 14, 2016 for an amount not to exceed \$178,257.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding has been allocated in the FY 2014 budget in these Funds:

Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 610) from Taubman Foundation donation for purchase and installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons on Shattuck Avenue....... \$28,257

The Contract Management System number is CMS No. QQBQU.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Several existing electronic traffic calming devices are currently not functional and need to be repaired or replaced, including locations that have in-roadway crosswalk lights and pedestrian crossing flashing beacons at un-signalized intersections and mid-block locations. These devices were installed to provide safe and efficient conditions for pedestrians to cross high volume roadways. The existing non-operating traffic calming devices will be replaced by newer, more reliable Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) systems.

Speed feedback signs were installed to calm vehicular speeding on sensitive locations throughout the City. Non-operational speed feedback signs will be replaced by efficient/updated models. City staff do not have the training, experience, or equipment necessary for providing the required repair/replacement or installing a new system in a timely or cost-effective manner.

In addition to replacing non-operational traffic calming devices, the City will also install a new RRFB system on Shattuck Avenue between Cedar Street and Vine Street, funded by a donation from The Taubman Foundation. City Council authorized accepting this donation in May 2013 (Resolution No. 66,165–N.S.).

BACKGROUND

Approximately 15 years ago, the City received grant funding from the State to install electronic pedestrian crossing devices at various locations throughout the City. The electronic calming devices industry is rapidly changing and constantly improving their products. Consequently, when a calming device or system ages beyond its typical 5–7 years of useful life, it is extremely difficult to find replacement parts, and often requires replacing most of the expensive parts to revive an old system.

The City tried in-roadway crosswalk lighting systems ("Santa Rosa" lights) at various high-use crosswalks; however, they were problematic and required costly maintenance due to water leaks into the ground units, street sweeper damage, and removal and reinstallation for street rehabilitation/resurfacing projects. The City now intends to replace all remaining non-operational in-roadway crosswalk lighting systems with new more reliable RRFB. The City installed the first RRFB system about 3½ years ago at Adeline and Harmon, which has been operating effectively, and far more reliable than in-roadway crosswalk lights. An added advantage of these devices is that they do not require removal and reinstallation as a result of street construction projects.

Other devices installed in the City include several Radar Speed Feedback Signs (SFS) to calm vehicular speeding. Some of these are more than 10 years old and beyond their useful life; some have been vandalized or hit by trucks; and some vendors are no longer in business or manufacture only particular models. Repairing non-operational/damaged SFS is not cost effective, and staff proposes to replace the non-operational SFS and install additional SFS as needed to calm speeding.

In October 2013 Public Works Transportation issued Specification No. 14-10802-C for Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Replacement Contract, and 5 bids were received that met all requirements and specifications. The lowest responsive bidder is Traffic Development Services.

The abstract of the bid results is:

- Tennyson Electric \$283,817
- Columbia Electric \$276,700

- Ray's Electric \$234,606
- W. Bradley Electric \$194,949
- Traffic Development Services \$178,257

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City does not have adequate staff, experience or equipment to repair or replace non-operational electronic traffic control devices and install a new RRFB system.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative action is feasible.

CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Transportation Manager, Public Works, 981-7061 Ahsan Kazmi, Assistant Traffic Engineer, Public Works, 981-6416

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: TRAFFIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, several existing electronic traffic calming devices are currently not functional and need to be repaired or replaced, including locations that have in-roadway crosswalk lights and pedestrian crossing flashing beacons on marked crosswalks at unsignalized intersections and mid-block locations, and speed feedback signs to calm vehicular speeding at high volume roadways and sensitive locations; and

WHEREAS, City staff do not have the training, experience, or the equipment necessary for providing the required repair/replacement or installing a new system in a timely or cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, an invitation for bids was advertised on October 2, 2013, and 5 contractors responded to the invitation for bids on October 17, 2013, meeting all requirements of the plans and specifications for Electric Traffic Calming Devices Replacement, and the lowest responsive and responsive bidder was Traffic Development Services; and

WHEREAS, funding is available in the FY 2014 budget in the State Transportation Tax Fund (Fund 369), and the Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 610) from a donation from The Taubman Foundation; and the contract has been entered into the City's database with CMS No. QQBQU.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the plans and specification No. 14-10802-C for the Electric Traffic Calming Devices Replacement Project are approved;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the bid from Traffic Development Services is accepted; and the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions or change orders with Traffic Development Services in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, in an amount not to exceed \$178,257 to purchase and install electronic traffic calming devices. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.