



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
January 21, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager
Submitted by: Andrew Clough, Director, Public Works
Subject: Contract: DC Electric Group Inc., for On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution:

1. Approving plans and specifications for the On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance Project, Specification No. 14-10801-C and accepting the proposal of DC Electric Group, Inc.; and
2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with DC Electric Group Inc., for the on-call general maintenance of electronic traffic calming devices for the period February 14, 2014 to February 13, 2019, with options for up to three 1-year extensions, for an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Initial funding is available in the FY 2014 budget from the State Transportation Tax Fund (Fund 369) for on-call electronic traffic calming device maintenance services, and an annual recurring allocation of \$50,000 is subject to appropriation in future years.

Additional funding sources may be requested for appropriation for installation of electronic traffic calming devices in new areas as the need arises.

The total not-to-exceed contract amount is \$350,000 during the term of the contract.

The Contract Management System number is CMS No. TIU53.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City is responsible for the maintenance of about 36 different electronic traffic calming devices, including pedestrian crossing flashing beacons, rapid flashing beacons, in-roadway crosswalk lights, and speed feedback signs, and to ensure their operation for pedestrian, bicyclist, and driver safety. This is especially important for marked crosswalks at un-signalized intersections and mid-block locations, particularly on high volume streets where drivers may have more difficulty recognizing pedestrians

and bicyclists crossing roadways during peak hours, at night, or under rainy/foggy conditions. These devices also help to calm vehicular speeds at various locations.

The City does not have the technical expertise to conduct maintenance work on electronic traffic calming devices, and some, such as radar speed feedback signs, are sealed and can only be maintained by the manufacturer. This will be the first contract with an outside contractor for the repair, replacement and maintenance of electronic traffic calming devices. Without the contract, the only options may be to remove devices, buy a new system if funds allow, or if the failure is only partial, let them operate until they degrade and fail completely.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley has been in the forefront among other cities in the country in its use of traffic calming. Berkeley has taken the initiative to install and experiment with new technologies (including electronic traffic calming devices) to further improve the quality of life and enhance safety for residents and visitors. Over the past 15 years, electronic traffic calming devices have been installed at various locations in the City. At this time, almost all of these electronic traffic calming devices are beyond their manufacturer's warranty, and need maintenance in order to remain in good operating condition.

Public Works issued a Request for Proposals, Specification No. 14-10801-C for an On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance contract on October 23, 2013, which was posted online for 3 weeks. Email notices were sent to several general contractors and vendors/distributors serving the Bay Area, and 2 proposals were submitted (DC Electric Group Inc., and Ray's Electric) on November 14, 2013 meeting all requirements and specifications. After evaluation of both proposals, the highest score was given to DC Electric Group, Inc

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City does not have the technical resources, experience or equipment to repair, replace, and maintain electronic traffic control devices. This contract will provide on-call services to install and maintain these traffic calming systems at locations throughout the City. Furthermore, it is anticipated that additional electronic traffic calming devices will be installed in future years, and the multi-year contract provides for continuation of unit prices through the contract period, subject to cost-of-living index adjustments.

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: DC ELECTRIC GROUP, INC., FOR ON-CALL ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the City must periodically maintain electronic traffic calming devices to ensure they are in a good operating condition for pedestrian, bicyclist, and motorist safety, especially on marked crosswalks at un-signalized intersections and mid-block locations, and to calm vehicular speeding at sensitive locations; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have internal resources or technical expertise to provide the required repair, replacement and maintenance in a timely or cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, a Request For Proposals (RFP) was advertised on October 23, 2013, and two contractors responded to the RFP on November 14, 2013, meeting all requirements of the proposal and specifications for On-Call Electric Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, staff evaluated both proposals, and based on the selection criteria in the RFP, the highest scoring and selected consultant is DC Electric Group, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, initial funding is available in the FY 2014 budget from the State Transportation Tax Fund (Fund 369) for on-call electronic traffic calming device maintenance services, and an annual recurring allocation of \$50,000 is subject to appropriation in future years; and additional funding sources may be requested for appropriation for installation of electronic traffic calming devices in new areas as the need arises; and

WHEREAS, the contract has been entered into the City's database as CMS No. TIU53.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the proposal from DC Electric Group, Inc., is accepted; and the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with DC Electric Group, Inc., in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, in an amount not to exceed \$350,000 to repair, replace and maintain electronic traffic calming devices for the period February 14, 2014 to February 13, 2019 with an option for up to three 1-year extensions. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

