



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 25, 2005

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: *PK* Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Claudette Ford, Acting Director, Public Works

Subject: Contract - On-Call Traffic Engineering Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Korve Engineering for on-call traffic engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for the period November 1, 2005 to October 31, 2007.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The \$40,000 for this contract is budgeted in the Transportation Department's FY 2006 budget (610-4950-431- 3035). The CMS# is BCUKH

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The heavy demands placed on the Public Works Department traffic engineering staff, coupled with the recent staff cuts in this division, have resulted in delivery issues, especially where tight deadlines need to be met or special expertise is required.

BACKGROUND

Since 1999 the City has hired outside traffic engineering consultants to assist staff in handling its workload. The loss of a 0.5 traffic engineer in FY06 has increased the workload on remaining staff. Traffic engineering consultants augment the services of permanent staff, especially in meeting critical deadlines.

Requests for proposals were sent to nine firms in early July 2005. The City identified a wide range of tasks which the consultant could potentially be asked to undertake, depending upon the needs and priorities facing traffic engineering from time to time. We received bids from the following five consultants; DKS Associates, Fehr & Peers, Kimley-Horn Associates, Korve Engineering, and TJKM. Staff reviewed these bids to determine the firms' respective strengths and as a result have selected Korve Engineering to help with different types of traffic engineering work.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Even though Korve Engineering have not worked for the City in the recent past, they were selected on the basis of their pricing and experience with municipal agencies. While the hourly rates vary from task to task, depending on the required skill set and the level of staff used, the rates provided by Korve Engineering were lowest in all but one of the tasks. All references contacted for Korve provided very positive feedback on the quality of their work.

In our experience with consultants on similar tasks, they all apply approximately the same level of time and effort. Therefore, we believe that Korve Engineering will be the most cost effective consultant for our purposes.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The only alternative would be to postpone indefinitely the execution of certain assignments.

CONTACT PERSON

Peter Hillier, Assistant Public Works Director, 981-7010.

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.

APPROVING CONTRACT FOR ON-CALL TRAFFIC ENGINEERING SERVICES

WHEREAS, outside traffic engineering consultants are needed to augment the services of permanent staff where tight deadlines are at issue or special expertise is required; and

WHEREAS, the City since 1999 has hired outside traffic engineering consultants to assist staff in handling heavy workloads; and

WHEREAS, requests for proposals were sent to nine firms and Korve Engineering was deemed to be the most competitive out of the five responding firms; and was selected on the basis of their pricing, their experience with municipal agencies and the positive feedback received from their references; and

WHEREAS, funds for this contract in the amount \$40,000 are available in the Capital Improvement Fund 610-4950-431-3035; and the contract has been entered into the City contract database, and assigned CMS number BCUKH.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Korve Engineering for the term November 1, 2005 to October 31, 2005. A record signature copy of said contract and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.