

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda date: December 7, 2009

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Contract with AECOM for the design of a traffic signal and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Marin Avenue and Santa Fe Avenue

FROM: Aleida Andrino Chavez, Transportation Planner
Randy Leptien, City Engineer

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 09-51 authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a Consultant Services Agreement with AECOM in the amount of \$39,585 for the design of a new traffic signal and pedestrian enhancements at the intersection of Marin Avenue and Santa Fe Avenue and waiving the requirement to obtain multiple proposals for this project.

BACKGROUND

The City of Albany obtained a State of California Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Grant for the implementation of a new traffic signal with detection and controller at the Marin and Santa Fe intersection, pedestrian improvements around Marin Elementary School, and an educational component for the school curriculum. In a separate Consent Item on the December 7, 2009 Agenda, the Council is being asked to authorize the City Administrator to execute a Program Supplement with Caltrans for the design, construction and implementation of this project.

AECOM's predecessor firm prepared Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) for the reconfiguration of Marin Avenue in 2005. In 2007 the City engaged AECOM (formerly DMJM Harris) to prepare PS&E and bid documents for another SR2S project, the Buchanan/Jackson signal improvements which will improve pedestrian safety on the route to and around Ocean View Elementary School. In addition, AECOM is currently finalizing the conceptual design for the Buchanan Marin Bicycle-Pedestrian Path through an ACTIA grant.

DISCUSSION

The City purchasing policy requires that multiple proposals be obtained for Consultant Services Agreements (CSA) over \$15,000. Staff finds that AECOM is uniquely qualified to provide the required design services because of their previous experience with traffic signals, bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Marin Avenue and Buchanan Street.

Staff estimates that a savings due to an economy of scale will result if the Buchanan/Jackson signal and the Marin/Santa Fe signal and improvements are built together under one construction contract. Construction of the Buchanan/Jackson signal and related improvements must take place in the summer of 2010 under the terms of the grant for that project. Construction is scheduled to take place when school is not in session to minimize impacts on the school. City staff believes it will also be more cost-effective and service-efficient to hire the same consulting firm for the design of the Marin/Santa Fe project as this firm would be producing the construction plans, documents, and construction support, particularly if they can provide these services on a schedule consistent with the Buchanan/Jackson schedule.

Staff therefore is recommending that the City enter into its Standard Consultant Services Agreement with AECOM without securing proposals from additional firms. The proposal from AECOM for the required scope of services is attached. AECOM's Scope of Services under the proposed CSA includes the following:

- Design a traffic signal with detection system (loop or video) and pedestrian count down heads.
- Recommend location for two (2) "speed feedback" solar signs on Marin Avenue.
- Design the curb realignment at the intersection of Marin and Santa Fe Avenues to decrease the curb returns.
- Recommend location for two (2) speed humps on the 1000 block of Santa Fe Avenue. City has standard design for speed humps.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The attached proposal from AECOM provides that services be provided on a time and materials basis for a total amount not to exceed \$39,595. The total budgeted amount for design is \$45,730, which includes a topographic survey that the City Engineer will prepare and provide to AECOM prior to developing of plans. The Safe Routes to School grant covers 90% of the design work, or \$41,157. This amount covers the fee charged by AECOM and some of the City staff time dedicated to plans revision.

Exhibits

Exhibit A: Resolution No. 09-51

Exhibit B: AECOM Proposal