REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE December 09, 2015

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: AS-NEEDED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS SERVICES — CONTRACT AMENDMENTS (VARIOUS)

R. Barajas ______ K. Regan ______
H. Fujita ______* N. Williams ______
V. Israel ______

Approved _____ Disapproved ______ Withdrawn ______

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed Amendment to each of the seven (7) contracts listed in Attachment A, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and each of the listed contractors for environmental impact analysis services, to extend the term of each contract from three (3) years to five (5) years, subject to approval of the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, of the City Council, and of the City Attorney as to form; and

2. Find, in accordance with Charter Section 1022, that the Department does not have personnel available in its employ with sufficient time and expertise to undertake these specialized professional tasks and that it is more economical and feasible to secure these services by contract; and

3. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit forthwith each proposed Amendment to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3 and, concurrently to the City Attorney, for review and approval as to form; and

4. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute each Amendment upon receipt of the necessary approvals.
SUMMARY:

RAP continues to have a need for environmental impact analysis services that staff cannot provide; therefore, one or more environmental impact analysis consultants are required. Currently, RAP has eight (8) consultant contracts in place to perform environmental impact analysis as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Because most of the RAP’s proposed projects fall within the definition of a “project” as defined by the State CEQA Guidelines and require discretionary actions by the Board and/or City Council, they are subject to the provisions of CEQA unless an exemption applies.

On March 14, 2012, the Board approved a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), which was released June 19, 2012 (Report No. 12-062). On August 14, 2012, RAP received eleven (11) proposals in response to the RFQ for Environmental Impact Analysis. Of those eleven (11) proposals, only eight (8) were deemed responsive to the RFP. Award of contracts to each of the eight (8) consultants was approved by the Board on November 7, 2012 (Report No. 12-304). Of the eight (8) firms with signed contracts, seven (7) have indicated they would sign a contract amendment (Attachment A). The eighth (8th) firm, Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., has declined to be included.

The current contracts for the firms listed on Attachment A are set to expire on April 2, 2016. RAP requests that the Board approve the Amendments to extend the term of the contracts by two (2) years, making the total contract length five (5) years and the expiration date April 2, 2018.

Amending the term of these contracts will allow RAP to continue using consultants with environmental impact analysis expertise and resources that otherwise cannot be performed by City staff, such as the preparation and processing of legally adequate Initial Studies (ISs), Negative Declarations (NDs), Mitigated Negative Declarations (MNDs), and Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), in accordance with City and State CEQA Guidelines and the Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide. They will also provide for the preparation and processing of legally adequate Environmental Assessments, Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI)/Mitigated FONSI and Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500) and Federal Agency NEPA Procedures, including Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) (33 CFR 230); Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (24 CFR PART 58); United States Forest Service (USFS) (36 CFR 220); and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (23 CFR 771) as implemented by California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) (23 CFR 773 §6004-6005).

Because the contracts are set to expire April 2, 2016, RAP does not have sufficient time to conduct the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process. During the contract extension period, RAP will prepare an RFQ for Environmental Impact Analysis Consultant Services, and request the Board’s approval to release the RFQ and conduct the full RFQ process.
RAP is seeking authorization to prepare Amendments for each of the seven (7) contracts, and authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute these contracts, subject to approval of the Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney. Because the two (2) year extension increases the total term of each contract to five (5) years, City Council approval is required. All other terms and conditions of the contracts remain unchanged.

Funding for projects will be provided from various funding sources including, but not limited to, Proposition K, Quimby, and Proposition 40.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Executing these Amendments has no impact to the Department’s General Fund. The funds to be expended will be on an as-needed, per-project basis.

This Report was prepared by Désirée Guzzetta, Management Analyst II, Finance Division.
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<tr>
<td>CDM Smith, Inc.</td>
<td>523 West Sixth Street, Suite 400 Los Angeles, CA 90014</td>
<td>3341</td>
<td>4/3/2013</td>
<td>4/2/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Planning Center</td>
<td>9841 Airport Boulevard, Suite 101 Los Angeles, CA 90025</td>
<td>3347</td>
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