

# Agenda Report

April 2, 2012

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Department of Public Works

**SUBJECT: CONTRACT AWARD TO FREEWAY ELECTRIC INC. FOR NORTH MARENGO AVENUE BICYCLE BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$129,000**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find the projects proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15301 (Class 1), subsection (c) of the Resources Agency of California Guidelines (minor alterations involving negligible expansion or no use beyond that previously existing) pursuant to the findings of the Secretary of the Resources Agency; and
- (2) Accept the bid dated February 29, 2012, submitted by Freeway Electric, Inc. in response to the Specifications for North Marengo Avenue Bicycle Boulevard Improvements project, reject all other bids received, and authorize the City Manager to enter into such contract as is required for an amount not to exceed \$129,000.

## **BACKGROUND:**

This project was included in the City's original Bicycle Master Plan (approved by the City Council in 2000), and is also included in the current Final Draft Bicycle Transportation Plan. As part of the Final Draft Bicycle Transportation Plan, Marengo Avenue from Orange Grove Boulevard to Howard Street is identified as an "Emphasized Bikeway," which is defined as a street that allows for through traffic for bicyclists, while diverting motor vehicle traffic. In 1999, prior to the approval of the original Bicycle Master Plan, a project was completed to deemphasize Marengo Avenue from Orange Grove Boulevard to Washington Boulevard. The project restricted northbound traffic through the intersection of Orange Grove Boulevard, restricted southbound traffic through the intersection of Washington Boulevard, and restricted traffic movement on Marengo Avenue from Painter Street to Orange Grove Boulevard to southbound only.

With the existing diversion of traffic and the need to allow bicyclist movement, this portion of Marengo Avenue was identified as an "Emphasized Bikeway." This project will install the necessary bicyclist components to allow bicyclists to travel north and south along Marengo Avenue through its intersections at Orange Grove Boulevard and Washington Boulevard, and along Marengo Avenue between Painter Street and Orange Grove Boulevard, thus completing this portion of the "Emphasized Bikeway."

There is an existing bikeway along Marengo Avenue from Glenarm Street to Orange Grove Boulevard. Once completed, this project will extend the bikeway from Orange Grove Boulevard to Washington Boulevard. The remaining portion of the identified "Emphasized Bikeway" from Washington Boulevard to Howard Street will be completed at a later date once the Final Draft Bicycle Transportation Plan is adopted by City Council and funds become available. Map 6.2: Final Draft Existing and Proposed Bikeways of the Bicycle Transportation Plan, attached hereto as Attachment A, shows the proposed "Emphasized Bikeway" and its connectivity to other existing bikeways in the City, which will enhance bicycle use and create traffic-calming effects resulting in a quiet and pleasant street for the residents and bicyclists.

This project will provide a bicycle corridor with bicycle transportation technology utilizing dedicated bicycle loop detectors and bicycle signal heads in conjunction with modified channelization and bicycle signage. This project consists of widening the street on the west side of Marengo Avenue at Orange Grove Boulevard; traffic signal modification at the intersections of Marengo Avenue at Orange Grove Boulevard and Marengo Avenue at Washington Boulevard; restriped lanes at these intersections to accommodate a dedicated bicycle lane; and channelization, bicycle pavement markings, and signage on Marengo Avenue from Claremont Street to 80 feet north of Mountain Street.

Findings of compliance with the General Plan were previously made in the FY 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program and can be found on page 5.20.

The Department of Public Works prepared specifications for this project and bids have been received. The project was advertised in the *Pasadena Star News* on February 9, 2012. In addition, the Notice Inviting Bids was published in two trade publications and on two websites. Bid packets were obtained by 15 contractors, 4 of whom submitted bids for the project.

Following advertising, bids were received on February 29, 2012, and are as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Freeway Electric Inc., Riverside, CA	\$116,611
2. California Professional Engineer Inc., Rowland Heights, CA	\$119,512
3. G. Coast Construction, Encino, CA	\$175,750
4. Mallcraft Inc., Pasadena, CA	\$176,000
Engineer's Estimate	\$ 77,163

The lowest responsive bid received was 51.1% higher than the Engineer's Estimate. The use of bid results from larger projects with similar work may have resulted in a low Engineer's Estimate. In addition, specialized traffic signal heads for bicyclists and specialized bicycle pavement markings have resulted in higher bids. It is recommended that Freeway Electric, Inc. be awarded a contract for this project as they are the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and that the other bids be rejected. The proposed contract with Freeway Electric, Inc. fully complies with the Competitive Bidding and Living Wage Ordinances. The Contractor has indicated that the award of this contract will result in no new hires to its present workforce.

The contract will be set up as follows:

Base Bid	\$ 116,611
Contingency Allowance (10%)	<u>\$ 12,389</u>
Contract "Not to Exceed" Amount	\$ 129,000

It is anticipated that work will begin in May 2012, and be completed in early August 2012. These proposed dates include the material lead time required for manufacturing and delivery of items. Actual construction is anticipated to begin in June 2012.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This project supports the City Council Strategic Goal to "Improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure" and to "Improve mobility and accessibility throughout the City of Pasadena." The project is consistent with the Land Use Element Policy 20.3 by promoting the use of non-motorized modes of transportation, such as bicycles and walking within the City, and Policy 20.4, by promoting mobility for those who do not drive. In addition, the project is consistent with objective 21 by making Pasadena a city where there are effective and convenient alternatives to using cars.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The City's Environmental Administrator has determined the project was categorically exempt under CEQA in accordance with Section 15301 Existing Facilities (Class 1), Subsection (c). This exemption includes the minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The proposed projects will improve efficiency and safety at the existing intersections. There will be no expansion of the streets or expansion of capacity. A Notice of Exemption for the project was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on January 10, 2012.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of this contract will be \$129,000 and the total cost of this action is \$139,000. Funding for this action will be addressed by utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the North Marengo Avenue Bicycle Boulevard (Budget Account 75703) CIP project. The following table presents a summary of the sources of funds that will be used.


Caltrans Bicycle Transportation Account Grant	\$125,000
Gas Tax	\$7,000
TDA Article 3	\$7,000
Total Sources	\$139,000

It is anticipated that the costs will be spent during the current fiscal year and FY 2013. On-going maintenance costs, including electricity, are anticipated and will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the Public Works Department's Street Lights and Traffic Signals program (Budget Account 8142-101-764420).


The following table represents a contract summary.

Base Bid	\$ 116,611
Contingency Allowance	\$ 12,389
Contract Total	\$ 129,000
Administration/Inspection	\$ 10,000
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 139,000

Respectfully submitted,

  
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SIOBHAN FOSTER  
Director of Public Works

Prepared by:

  
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Bonnie L. Hopkins  
Principal Engineer

Approved by:

  
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MICHAEL J. BECK  
City Manager