

# Agenda Report

February 22, 2016

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Department of Public Works  
**SUBJECT: REJECTION OF BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) LUMINAIRES**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council reject the bids received on December 22, 2015, in response to the Notice Inviting Bids for the Purchase of Light Emitting Diode (LED) Luminaires Project.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In November 2015, the City Council approved an amendment to the Annual Action Plan (2015-2016) for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for an allocation of unspent CDBG funds to several Department of Public Works projects including street lighting LED upgrades. Public Works staff looked at projects that could be implemented quickly in order to meet the short project completion deadline. This project proposed to replace approximately 1,100 existing high pressure, mercury vapor and incandescent street light luminaires to energy efficient LED lighting. The existing luminaires are older, less energy efficient and becoming more difficult to maintain. Replacement of the existing luminaires was intended to increase safety for pedestrians and motorists at night while saving energy and money due to decreased maintenance from to the longer lifespan of the luminaire units.

In order to meet the funding deadline, the project scheduled procurement of materials by March 2016 and installations by Public Works field crews by June 30, 2016.

The Department of Public Works prepared the specifications for this project. In accordance with Section 4.08.070 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, bids were requested and received. The project was advertised in the *Pasadena Journal* on November 25, 2015. In addition, a Notice Inviting Bids was published in five trade publications, and listed on the City's website, which generated notices to eleven local vendors. Thirty-seven vendors obtained bid packets, eight of whom submitted bids for the project.

However, based on the project specifications, none of the bidders were deemed responsive. The City's bid specifications included two detailed performance objectives designed to replicate as-built streetlight scenarios located on Orange Grove Boulevard and also on Colorado Boulevard. The specifications required minimum average foot candle output of 1.8 foot candles on Orange Grove Boulevard and 3.2 foot candles on Colorado Boulevard. City staff evaluated the bids and determined that five of the bid packages were incomplete. The remaining three bidders that submitted complete bid packages were further evaluated and it was determined that none of these bidders met the minimum average foot candle requirements based on the City's design standard for street lighting which was developed and adopted in the 1970s and still in use today. The City's street lighting design standard is considerably higher than the industry standard used by public agencies and is referenced in the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) Recommended Practice. Current LED technology can meet the industry standard, but is impractical in meeting the City's design standard.

The Department of Public Works will conduct further research into the use of LED luminaires by other public agencies as well as consider the recommendation to modify the City's streetlight design standards to be in line with industry practices. This would require adoption of the IES Recommended Practice by City Council through Municipal Services Committee.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The project is consistent with the City Council's goal to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure, and improve mobility and accessibility throughout the City. It also supports the Public Facilities Element of the General Plan by maintaining public facilities to enhance the quality of life of the community.

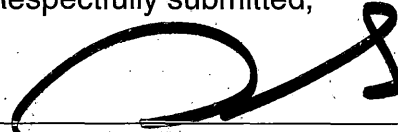
**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

There is no environmental impact of this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

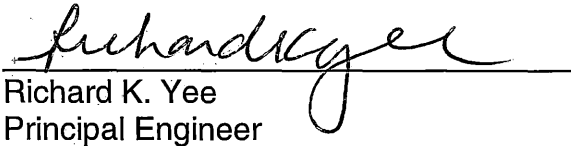
This project was intended to use available unspent CDBG funds on a project that could be implemented quickly, but the Department of Public Works could not procure the project materials as planned. There is not sufficient time to evaluate and revise Pasadena's street light design standards, revise specifications, rebid the project and complete the installation of the LED luminaires upgrades prior to the June 30, 2016 CDBG funding deadline. Therefore, the unspent CDBG monies in the amount of \$530,000 will be returned for reallocation.

Respectfully submitted,



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Director of Public Works

Prepared by:



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Approved by:



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