

# Agenda Report

May 20, 2019

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Public Safety Committee (May 15, 2019)

**FROM:** Department of Public Works

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH DONALD MACDONALD ARCHITECTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND DESIGN SERVICES OF THE COLORADO STREET BRIDGE – SUICIDE MITIGATION ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 AND AMENDMENT TO FY 2019 CIP BUDGET**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the project proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment;
2. Amend the Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Improvement Program Budget by appropriating \$550,000 in General Fund dollars to Colorado Street Bridge – Suicide Mitigation Enhancements – Design Phase (73324) project; and
3. Authorize City Manager to enter into a contract, as the result of a competitive selection process, specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Donald MacDonald Architects for Environmental and Design Services for a total amount not to exceed \$500,000.

## **RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

On April 17, 2019, the Department of Public Works presented to the Public Safety Committee (Committee) the proposed award of an environmental and design services contract for the Colorado Street Bridge – Suicide Mitigation Enhancements Project, including its schedule and cost. The Committee directed staff to re-evaluate and streamline the project’s environmental and design scope of work, and return with a condensed project schedule and reduced cost.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The concept of installing a suicide deterrent system on the Colorado Street Bridge has been explored at various intervals over the last several decades. On April 23, 2018, the City Council unanimously approved the suicide prevention measures recommended by the Colorado Street Bridge Task Force to deter suicide attempts on the Colorado Street Bridge through the implementation of a vertical barrier system. City Council directed staff to further study the recommendations of the Colorado Street Bridge Task Force, and return to Council with a recommended project and appropriate environmental review.

In an effort to mitigate further attempts during this project development and implementation phase, the Department of Public Works contracted Western Fence Company to install 10-foot high temporary fencing along the entire length of the bridge in September 2018.

The Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Professional Services for Environmental Report, Design Development, and Construction Documentation for the Colorado Street Bridge utilizing the federal procurement process and evaluation criteria on October 17, 2018. The City received two responsive proposals on January 24, 2019 in response to the RFP. Below is a list of responsive proposers.

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
Donald MacDonald Architects	San Francisco	92.5
T.Y. Lin International	Los Angeles	78

Based on the evaluation procedures and criteria specified in the RFP, the firms were scored and ranked by a selection committee. Both firms were interviewed by the committee on February 21, 2019. Attachment A contains a summary of the consultants’ scoring and ranking based on federal criteria.

Donald MacDonald Architects (MacDonald Architects) is recommended to provide Professional Services for Environmental Report, Design Development, and Construction Documentation for the Colorado Street Bridge – Suicide Mitigation Enhancements project. The selected firm demonstrated distinct strengths, resources, and capacities such as expertise in suicide deterrent systems installed on iconic bridges, acknowledgement and consideration of the sensitive nature of the project, emphasis on community involvement

and public outreach, and overall understanding of the process to develop a suicide deterrent system on a historic, iconic, and highly visible bridge.

MacDonald Architects is located in San Francisco and specializes in architectural design of both new and historic bridges. Established in 1966, the firm has maintained an impressive project profile including Indiana's Ohio River Bridge – East End Crossing, the Tilikum Crossing Bridge in Portland, Oregon, and the I-80 Berkeley Pedestrian Bicycle Overpass in Berkeley, and has won numerous international and national design awards. The firm offers a unique understanding and expertise in suicide mitigation projects and brings a wealth of knowledge from extensive research into suicide mitigation efforts around the globe. Donald MacDonald, founding Principal Architect of the firm has worked on several well-known bridges that implemented mitigation efforts such as the San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge, Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge (a.k.a. Cooper River Bridge) in Charleston, SC, and Ironworkers Memorial Bridge in Vancouver, BC.

MacDonald Architects will be partnering with Biggs Cardosa Associates and Galvin Preservation Associates, Inc. (GPA Consulting), with whom they have long-standing relationships working on notable bridge projects. Biggs Cardosa Associates is a structural engineering firm that specializes in the design, seismic retrofit, modification and rehabilitation of bridges. The firm is intimately knowledgeable of the Colorado Street Bridge having worked on its 1993 retrofit as part of the construction team.

GPA Consulting has extensive experience in the evaluation of historic resources and preparation of environmental documents. Within the GPA team, Teresa Grimes has been noted as the Principal Architectural Historian on the project. She is a Pasadena resident, whose knowledge of the City and expertise in its historic resources is respected by the community and organizations within Pasadena. GPA Consulting has worked on historically-significant Pasadena bridge projects such as the La Loma Road Bridge Rehabilitation project and is currently working on the Holly Street Bridge Seismic Retrofit project as a sub-consultant.

Although MacDonald Architects has not previously performed any work for the City of Pasadena, the firm has provided similar design services to numerous public agencies such as the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District, Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet), and the City of Charleston, South Carolina.

It is recommended that the City enter into a contract with Donald MacDonald Architects for environmental and design services for an amount not to exceed \$500,000, which is \$200,000 less than the prior amount presented to Public Safety Committee on April 17, 2019. The decreased amount is the result of MacDonald Architects pursuing a Categorical Exemption (CE) in lieu of an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines and, subsequently, reducing the project's anticipated environmental and design phase duration by ten months.

The objective of the vertical barrier is to add a safety and health protection system to an existing structure that does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of the Colorado Street Bridge, a historical resource. As such, the design chosen for this project proposed herein shall be considered categorically exempt under the (CEQA) guidelines. The City intends to pursue a Categorical Exemption in a manner consistent with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Over the next six months, MacDonald Architects will complete an investigation and site survey of the bridge, prepare project-level environmental reports, and develop alternatives and the conceptual design of a preferred vertical barrier. As part of this process, the preferred concept will be vetted through a public forum during presentations to the City's Historic Preservation Commission and the Design Commission.

Upon completion of the Categorical Exemption and development of a preferred conceptual design of the vertical barrier, staff anticipates returning to City Council in December 2019 for approval of the environmental determination and the conceptual design. Subsequently, construction plans and specifications will be prepared and project bid for construction by the end of FY 2020. Construction will begin pending appropriation of additional budget to the project in FY 2021.

Below in brief is the anticipated project schedule:

<b>PROJECT MILESTONES</b>	<b>COMPLETION DATE</b>
Environmental Design & Preliminary Engineering	October 2019
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting	October 2019
Design Commission Meeting	November 2019
Preferred Alternative Development	December 2019
City Council Meeting for CEQA & Concept Approval	December 2019
Finalize Design & Construction Documents	April 2020
Advertise, Bid & Award	July 2020
Begin Construction (pending budget appropriation)	August 2020

The anticipated schedule for design completion has been reduced by ten months, from February 2021 to April 2020.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This project is consistent with the City Council's goals to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure and support and promote the quality of life and local economy, and ensure public safety. It also conforms to several policies in the Land Use Element of the General Plan by accommodating healthcare and mental health services and encouraging public improvements and utility infrastructure that preserve and are compatible with historic resources.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

This contract is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3). The contracts are covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to the provisions of CEQA. This contract would retain a consultant for professional design services only. The specific design and subsequent construction of capital improvement projects will be subject to appropriate project-level environmental review at the time each is brought forward for first discretionary action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of this contract is \$500,000 and the total cost of this action will be \$550,000. Staff recommends amending the FY 2019 Capital Improvement Program Budget by appropriating \$550,000 in General Fund dollars to the *Colorado Street Bridge – Suicide Mitigation Enhancements – Design Phase* project and increasing the total estimated cost by a like amount.

Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of recommended budget appropriations in the Colorado Street Bridge – Suicide Mitigation Enhancements – Design Phase Project (budget account 73324). It is anticipated that all costs will be spent in FY 2020.

The following table represents the project summary:

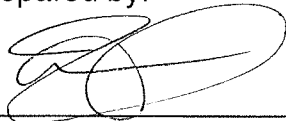
Environmental & Design Contract NTE	\$	500,000
Project Management & Administration	\$	50,000
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>550,000</b>

Respectfully submitted,



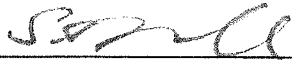
ARA MALOYAN, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

Prepared by:



Hayden Melbourn, P.E.  
Principal Engineer

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL  
City Manager

Attachment A - Consultant Scoring and Ranking