

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** August 14, 2000

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ZANDER AND ASSOCIATES INC. FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT LOWER ARROYO SECO MASTER PLAN UPDATE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 AND AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONLINE ENGINEERING FOR MAPPING SERVICES FOR THE DRAFT LOWER ARROYO SECO MASTER PLAN UPDATE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Zander and Associates for the preparation of the Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan update for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. The proposed contract is exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to City charter section 1002(F) contracts for professional or unique services.
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Online Engineering for the provision of mapping services for the Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. The proposed contract is exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to city Charter section 1002(F) contracts for professional or unique services
3. Grant these contracts an exemption from the competitive selection process of the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance pursuant to Pasadena Municipal code 4.09.060(C) contracts for which the City's best interests are served.
4. Approve a journal voucher authorizing the Director of Finance to transfer \$93,000 from the non-departmental budget to the Brookside Park account number 8114-101-765300 to fund the contract with Zander and Associates and a purchase order with Parsons for a biological inventory.

## BACKGROUND:

The Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan is one of five components that will comprise the Arroyo Seco Master Plan which will be the planning document for policies and guidelines for the entire Arroyo Seco. Since the update of the Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan in 1996, professional consultant teams have been contracted by the City to complete the Draft Master Plans for Hahamongna Watershed Park and the Central Arroyo Seco.

Staff is of the opinion that the recommendations proposed in these upstream draft master plans necessitate a closer look at the current proposals for the Lower Arroyo Seco to ensure compatibility and consistency with the connecting master plans. The current and expected use patterns in the Lower Arroyo Seco have changed; these changes need to be further evaluated based on the connecting master plans and the proposals in the Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan. There is a need to include more detail on the projects to be implemented with Los Angeles County Proposition A funding as well as a list of future CIP projects for any potential future funding opportunities. In addition, a biological inventory was never completed for the Lower Arroyo Seco and is now needed to determine proposed restoration projects as well as for the Master EIR. Staff recommends an update to the draft plan in keeping with the conceptual approval Council gave the plan in February 1997.

City staff completed an update to the 1988 Master Plan for the Lower Arroyo Seco that had been developed by the Graduate Landscape Architecture Program at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona. In February 1997, Council approved in concept the Draft Master Plan for the Lower Arroyo Seco, and directed staff to prepare a final plan with the appropriate amendments to existing ordinances, and proceed with environmental reviews. Also, in February 1997, Council conceptually approved the ten (10) recommendations found in Attachment A.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) and an Initial Study for the Draft Lower Arroyo Master Plan were circulated to all required agencies and to the community on July 23, 1997. This environmental review process was stopped soon after the NOP was circulated because the City then elected to instead prepare an Arroyo Seco Master Plan that would look at the issues of the entire Arroyo Seco in Pasadena, and prepare a Master Environmental Impact report to consider the cumulative environmental impacts of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan.

Staff recommends an update to the draft plan in keeping with the conceptual approval Council gave the plan in February 1997. Any new recommendations found to be necessary and outside of what Council conceptually approved in February 1997, will be highlighted and brought to Council under the Arroyo Seco Master Plan with the accompanying Arroyo Seco Master EIR.

Exemption from the competitive selection process of the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance is necessary to permit Zander and Associates, which is intimately familiar with the Lower Arroyo Seco and area issues through previous work they performed on the Browning Ferris Industries (BFI) Low-Flow Stream Restoration Project, to complete the Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan in a timely manner. Exemption from the competitive selection process of the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance is necessary to permit Parsons Engineering Science to complete the biological inventory for the Draft Lower Arroyo Master Plan since they completed the biological inventories for the Draft Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan and the Draft Central Arroyo Master and are intimately familiar with the area.

### Relationship to Other Plans in the Arroyo Seco

The Arroyo Seco Master Plan will be the City planning document that provides policy and guidelines for the Arroyo Seco from the City limits on the south to the JPL bridge 14 miles to the north. The Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan is one of five components to the Arroyo Seco Master Plan. The Arroyo Seco Master Plan will also consist of:

*The Central Arroyo Seco Master Plan* is currently being completed and is scheduled to come before City Council for conceptual approval in October 2000. The plan will provide a future guide for the park area from the Colorado Street bridge north to Devil's Gate Dam.

*The Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan* is now complete in draft form and was moved forward to the environmental review process by City Council on February 7, 2000. The plan will provide a future guide for the 300 acre park area from Devil's Gate Dam, north to the JPL bridge. An additional 1200 acres above the JPL bridge form the Upper Arroyo Seco in Pasadena but are not a part of this planning effort.

*The Rose Bowl Use Plan* will come before the City Council for review on August 14, 2000. The findings from the plan along with any recommendations from Council, will be evaluated as a part of the Central Arroyo Master Plan. From the evaluation process, the Central Arroyo Advisory Committee will make recommendations on any revisions that should be made to the Rose Bowl Use Plan to make it consistent with the policies and recommendations in the Central Arroyo Master Plan. The final recommended Rose Bowl Use Plan will come before Council again in October 2000 along with the Central Arroyo Seco Master Plan for conceptual approval of both plans.

*Design Guidelines for the Arroyo Seco* will establish a common vocabulary for design elements such as park furnishings, signage, fences, gates, lighting, built structures and planting. The design guidelines will help unify the three distinct park areas of the Arroyo Seco as well as assist in giving a unique identity to the area. This work is being completed by Takata Associates under the existing contracts for the Central Arroyo Seco Master Plan and the Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The environmental determination for the Draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan requires a master environmental impact report (MEIR). The three park plans comprising the Arroyo Seco Master Plan (the draft Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan, the draft Central Arroyo Seco Master Plan and the Draft Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan) will be environmentally reviewed at one time under the Arroyo Seco Master EIR.

The Planning Department and the Parks and Natural Resources Division of the Public Works and Transportation Department are working cooperatively in the management of the Arroyo Seco Master EIR. The consulting firm of Sapphos Environmental is currently under contract for this work, which began in the winter of 2000.

The Draft Arroyo Seco Master Plan MEIR and Draft Arroyo Seco Master Plan are scheduled to come before the City Council for certification and adoption respectively in the summer of 2001

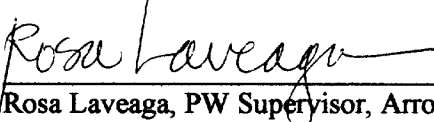
FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds to complete the update of the Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan have been set aside and are available and ready to be transferred from the non-departmental budget to the Brookside Park account number 8114-101-765300. The \$30,000 required for the mapping component are available and ready to be expanded from salary savings in the current Brookside account 101-765300.

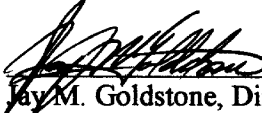
Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
City Manager


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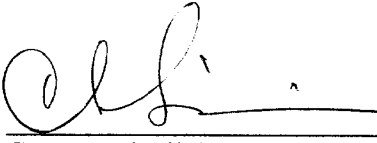
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