

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2006

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF CONTRACT NO. 18,738 WITH RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC. TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SEIR) FOR THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (CALTECH) MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to amend Contract No. 18,738 with Rincon Consultants, Inc. to provide additional consultant services for the preparation of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Caltech Master Development Plan Amendment in the amount of \$25,000. The new total contract amount will be \$140,000.

BACKGROUND

On December 20, 2004, the City Council authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract in the amount of \$115,000 with Rincon Consultants, Inc. to prepare a SEIR for the Caltech Master Development Plan Amendment.

The proposed Master Plan amendment included: 1) construction of a new chemistry and chemical engineering laboratory (CCE) on Wilson Avenue; 2) demolitions and replacement of graduate and undergraduate student housing; 3) construction of a new campus center; 4) revisions to the design guidelines and design thresholds of the Caltech Master Plan. Accordingly, the project description and the scope of the traffic study, for the SEIR was confirmed and the consultants began the required analysis in the Spring of last year. During the Summer, however, Caltech reassessed the CCE Laboratory needs and reconsidered its proposed location. Consideration of an alternate location for the laboratory required a revision to the project description and additional environmental and traffic analysis.

The revised scope of work reflects a proposal to analyze two potential locations for the new laboratory, collection of new traffic data to add to the comprehensive analysis of traffic and construction impacts on local roadways, potential aesthetic impact of the

removal and relocation of an existing art element, the potential impact of tree removals, and revisions to draft sections of the SEIR.

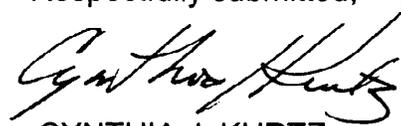
SCHEDULE

The project is currently not scheduled for any public hearings and the draft environmental document is currently being completed. Staff anticipates release of the Draft EIR for public review in March 2006. With the completion of a 45-day public review period and the preparation of response to comments the preliminary Final SEIR will be completed in May/June 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT

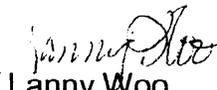
The applicant, California Institute of Technology, will pay for all costs associated with the preparation of the additional work on the Subsequent EIR. With the additional costs the total amount will be increased to an amount not to exceed \$140,000.

Respectfully submitted,



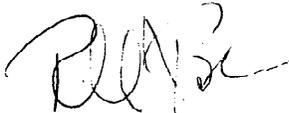
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City Manager

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