

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: June 19, 2006

THROUGH: FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONTRACT AWARD TO CHRISTOPHER R. MORALES, INC. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF IN-ROADWAY ILLUMINATED MARKER SYSTEM AT ORANGE GROVE BOULEVARD AND SUNNYSLOPE AVENUE AND OTHER LOCATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$253,000

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Accept the bid dated June 7, 2006, submitted by Christopher R. Morales, Inc. in response to the Specifications for the Installation of In-roadway Illuminated Marker System at Orange Grove Boulevard and Sunnyslope Avenue and Other Locations; reject all other bids received; and authorize the City Manager to enter into such contract as is required.
2. Approve a journal voucher appropriating \$100,000 in Commercial Development Fees and \$25,000 in Gas Tax Funds to Budget Account No. 75601, Safe Routes to School.
3. Acknowledge the project to be categorically exempt under Section 21084 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Article 19, Section 15301 (Class 1), subsection (c) of the Resources Agency of California Guidelines (minor alterations involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing) pursuant to the findings of the Secretary of the Resources Agency, and authorize the City Manager to execute and the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption for the project with the Los Angeles County Clerk.

BACKGROUND

Several City Departments have been working together to implement projects that increase the safety of pedestrians as identified in the Suggested Routes to School – Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Enhancements Project.

This project proposes to install "In-roadway Illuminated Marker System" at the following intersections:

1. Orange Grove Boulevard and Sunnyslope Avenue
2. Lake Avenue and Elizabeth Street
3. Los Robles Avenue and Buckeye Street

The "In-roadway Illuminated Marker System" is a warning system with flashing lights installed in the roadway surface to signal and alert vehicular traffic that pedestrians are entering the crosswalk. The installations are intended to warn motorists of marked crosswalk at locations not controlled by stop signs or traffic signals.

The work includes the installation of illuminated markers and controllers, new poles and video detection cameras, conduit, conductors, pull boxes and miscellaneous appurtenant work.

A finding of compliance with the General Plan was previously made and the project is shown on page 5.14 of the FY 2007-2012 Capital Improvement Program.

Under the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project is categorically exempt since the work consists of minor alterations involving no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Therefore, it is recommended that a Notice of Exemption be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk.

This project was advertised in the Star News on May 20, 2006. In addition, the Notice Inviting Bids was published in three trade publications and two websites. Bid packets were obtained by six contractors, three of whom submitted bids for the project.

Following advertising, bids were received on June 7, 2006, and are as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Christopher R. Morales Inc., City of Industry	\$229,989.00
2. Republic Electric, Novato	\$235,700.00
3. Freeway Electric, Riverside	\$397,000.00
Engineer's Estimate	\$135,000.00

The lowest bid received was 70% higher than the Engineer's Estimate.

As these traffic devices are new to Pasadena, there is no past history from which to base construction estimates. The estimates were prepared based on a combination of costs for those items commonly included in traffic signal projects and from equipment estimates provided by the manufacturer. Despite staff's effort to provide an accurate cost estimate, the bids are substantially higher than expected. Even though the low bid exceeds the Engineer's Estimate, there is no reason to suspect that rejecting bids and advertising for new bids will result in substantially lower bids.

It is recommended that Christopher R. Morales, 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 Christopher R. Morales, 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 his present workforce.

The contract will be set up as follows:

Base Bid	\$ 229,989.00
Contingency Allowance	<u>\$ 23,011.00</u>
Contract "Not to Exceed" Amount	\$ 253,000.00

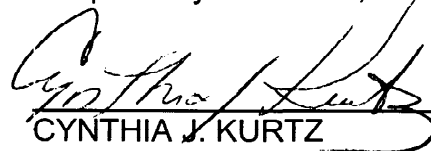
The total bid exceeds the available funds and additional funds are required to complete this project. Therefore, it is recommended that a journal voucher be approved appropriating \$100,000 in Commercial Development Fees and \$25,000 in Gas Tax Funds to this project.

It is anticipated that construction will begin in late July 2006 and be completed in early September 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT

Upon approval of the recommended journal voucher, funds for this project will be available in FY 2007 Capital Improvement Program, Budget Account No. 75601, Safe Routes to School.

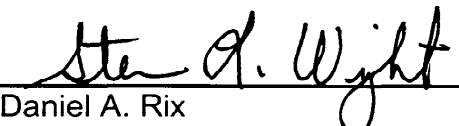
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager


Prepared by:


James E. Valentine
Principal Engineer

Reviewed by:

For 
Daniel A. Rix
City Engineer

Approved by:


Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works

**Disclosure Pursuant to the
City of Pasadena Taxpayer Protection Amendment of 2000
Pasadena City Charter, Article XVII**

Contractor/Organization hereby discloses its trustees, directors, partners, officers, and those with more than a 10% equity, participation, or revenue interest in Contractor/Organization, as follows:

(If printing, please print legibly. Use additional sheets as necessary.)

1. Contractor/Organization Name:

Christopher R. Morales, Inc.

2. Name(s) of trustees, directors, partners, officers of Contractor/Organization:

Christopher Morales, President, Vice President, Treasurer
Raymond Morales, Jr. Secretary

3. Names of those with more than a 10% equity, participation or revenue interest in Contractor/Organization: N/A

Prepared by: Christopher Morales

Title: President

Date: 6/7/06

For office use only:

Contract/Transaction No. _____

If not a contract, type of transaction: _____