

Agenda Report

October 26, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH EARTH SYSTEMS AND GEOCON WEST, INC. TO PROVIDE ON-CALL GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR TWO YEARS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 FOR EACH CONSULTANT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment;
2. Authorize City Manager to enter into a contract without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) "contract for professional or unique services" with Earth Systems for On-Call Geotechnical Engineering Services for two years in an amount not to exceed \$200,000; and
3. Authorize City Manager to enter into a contract without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) "contract for professional or unique services" with Geocon West, Inc. for On-Call Geotechnical Engineering Services for two years in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Public Works is seeking qualified on-call geotechnical engineering consultants to provide professional services for various City projects that require slope stabilization, retaining capacity, and existing soil properties through laboratory testing. The required services will include, but are not limited to:

- Stability and deformation of shallow and deep foundations
- Various earth retaining structures and soil and rock slopes
- Shoring design for pipe trenching

- Liquefaction problems associated with seismic events, and estimation of earthquake ground motion parameters
- Geotechnical aspects of proposed foundation design for various structures such as bridges, utility tunnels, and buildings
- Design of cut slopes in soil and rock
- Assessment of landslide potential, and stabilization of existing landslides
- Subsidence or settlement of subgrade
- Groundwater conditions and surface drainage characteristics
- Definition of soil and rock properties by soil test borings and laboratory testing
- Inspection of earth fill placement and compaction
- Sampling and testing of concrete and asphalt

The Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Geotechnical Engineering Services on July 8, 2015. The City received 14 proposals on August 28, 2015 in response to the RFP. Below is a list of proposers.

Firm	City	
Earth Systems	Pasadena	Short-Listed
Geocon West, Inc.	Burbank	
Earth Mechanics, Inc.	Fountain Valley	
Ninyo & Moore	Irvine	
Furgo Consulting, Inc.	Los Angeles	Others
Twining Geotechnical	Long Beach	
Converse Consultants	Monrovia	
AECCO	Huntington Beach	
Amec Foster Wheeler	Irvine	
RMA Group	Carson	
Leighton Consulting, Inc.	Los Angeles	
AXION Team	Tustin	
Willdan Geotechnical	Anaheim	
Shannon & Wilson, Inc.	Glendale	

Based on the evaluation procedures and criteria specified in the RFP, the firms were scored and ranked by the selection committee. The top four ranked consulting firms were interviewed by the evaluation committee on September 28, 2015. Attachment A contains a summary of the proposal, interview, and total scoring. Earth Systems and Geocon West, Inc. were ranked number one and two, respectively, and both are recommended to be selected to provide on-call geotechnical engineering services.

Earth Systems is a local Pasadena business and has over 45 years of experience providing professional geotechnical engineering services, engineering geology, geophysical survey, and environmental assessment. They have previously worked on several City projects such as City of Pasadena Fire Station 39, Emergency Operation Facility, Rose Bowl Renovation and Improvements, Robinson Park Community Center

and John Muir High School Field Improvements. This consultant has had direct contracts with the City totaling over \$350,000 over the past ten years and has also worked as a subconsultant.

Geocon West, Inc. is a geotechnical engineering firm located in Burbank. They have over 30 years of experience providing professional geotechnical services for many public agencies. They have previously worked on several City projects such as La Loma Bridge, Rose Bowl Drive Improvements, Green Street and Fair Oaks Ave Improvements, La Pintesca Library, and on-call geotechnical services from 2008 to 2009. Over the past five years, this consultant has had direct contracts and purchase orders with the City totaling over \$60,000 and has also worked as a subconsultant.

It is recommended that the City enter into contracts with Earth Systems and Geocon West, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$200,000 each over a two year term commencing the date that each contract is fully executed.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The contract is consistent with the City Council's goal to increase conservation and sustainability and the General Plan Land Use policy to encourage and promote the stewardship of Pasadena's natural environment, including water conservation and the protection of water quality and natural open space.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This contract is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3). The contract is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a 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. These contracts would retain consultants for professional geotechnical consultant services only. The specific designs and subsequent construction of capital improvement projects will be subject to appropriate project-level environmental review at the time each is brought forward for action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of these contracts is a maximum of \$400,000 over two years. Funding for this action exists within budgeted capital project appropriations in the Capital Improvement Program. Attachment B contains a list of potential projects. It is anticipated that all of the costs for this two-year contract will be spent in FY 2016 and FY 2017. There are support costs such as contract administration and site inspections which are already included in the operating and capital budgets.

Respectfully submitted,



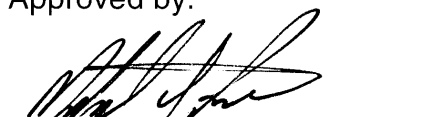
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Approved by:



MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

Attachment A – Consultant Rating Summary
Attachment B – List of Potential Projects