



Agenda Report

January 29, 2018

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PSOMAS FOR PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING ASSISTANCE FOR THE OAK GROVE AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$227,000

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the actions proposed herein are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA does not apply to actions which have no potential for causing a significant effect on the environment; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract, as the result of a competitive selection process, as specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Psomas for Preparation of Environmental Documentation and Environmental Permitting Assistance for the Oak Grove Area Improvement Project in an amount not to exceed \$227,000, which includes the base contract amount of \$206,325 and a contingency of \$20,675 to provide for any necessary change orders. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F)(contracts for professional or unique services).

BACKGROUND:

The Oak Grove Area Improvements project (OGAI) design concept encompasses five projects in the adopted Fiscal Year 2018 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget, identified as projects 1 through 5 in the Arroyo Projects - Hahamongna Watershed Park section of the budget. These five projects are in close physical proximity to each other and share common design features. Accordingly, it has been determined to design, study potential environmental effects, and implement them as one master project. (Attachment A).

The five projects as identified in the FY 2018 CIP for Hahamongna are:

1. Oak Grove Area Improvements (77506) - This project provides for improvements in the vicinity of the existing Oak Grove field. These improvements include: new restroom at Oak Grove field, access drive improvements, circulation reconfiguration, existing outdoor amphitheater repairs and Foothill drain rehabilitation. Total estimated project costs are \$1,864,348.

2. Trail Development (77507) – This project provides for improvements to the Westside Perimeter Trail. This project will accomplish additional master plan components, such as habitat restoration and storm drain improvements in the Berkshire Creek area. Total estimated project costs are \$869,440.

3. Berkshire Creek Area Improvements (77509) - Design components include raising the creek bed with grade controls at lower end of creek, naturalizing the drainage course, slope stabilization, park road improvements, and storm water quality improvements. Various park amenity enhancements (such as benches and drinking fountains) are also proposed in this vicinity. The restoration of Berkshire Creek would be the most complex undertaking within the OGAI project. It remains largely unchanged from the description contained in the adopted HWP Master Plan. Total estimated project costs are \$1,593,010.

4. Habitat Restoration (77508) – Habitat restoration and enhancement is recommended throughout the project area and where other specific improvements are not planned. This project provides for woodland habitat restoration associated with trail improvements and habitat restoration of various plant communities associated with the Berkshire Creek project. Total estimated project costs are \$520,000.

5. Oak Grove Disc Golf Course Improvements (77516) - The establishment of set boundaries for the course is critical. As part of the Oak Grove Disc Golf Course Improvements CIP, the City will work with Oak Grove Disc Golf Club representatives on a detailed layout of the holes, fairways, tees and baskets. Total estimated project costs are \$75,000.

The OGAI design concept was developed over the course of several months in 2014. A stakeholder group was assembled consisting of representatives of Hahamongna user groups, adjacent neighbors, Council District 1, environmental organizations, and the Hahamongna Watershed Park Advisory Committee (HWPAC). City staff from the Human Services and Recreation and Public Works Departments, as well as the City's partner organization for the project, the Arroyo Seco Foundation, were also represented.

The concept plan (Attachment B) proposes a basic design framework to be developed further into a precise plan that will serve as the basis for the appropriate environmental document. The design concept was unanimously supported by the HWPAC at its November 18, 2014 meeting and reviewed and supported by the Design Commission at its November 28, 2017 meeting.

The scope of services that will be provided under this contract consists of:

1) Assistance in the development of the Project Description to serve as the basis for the environmental analysis; 2) Preparation of a project level environmental document for the implementation of the OGAI project; and 3) Assistance with acquiring all necessary regulatory permits for the project.

The Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on June 30, 2017 to solicit professional services for preparation of environmental documentation and environmental permitting assistance for the OGAI project. The City received four proposals on August 3, 2017 in response to the RFP. The proposals were evaluated, scored, and ranked based on the evaluation procedures and criteria set forth in the RFP. All four consulting firms were interviewed by a panel of City employees on December 21, 2017. Attachment C contains a summary of the of the evaluation scoring.

Based on the evaluation of proposals, staff is recommending a contract award to Psomas. Psomas operates an office in Pasadena and is headquartered in Culver City, California. This firm has over 42 years of professional experience providing services in surveying, engineering, environmental and construction management for numerous public agencies. Psomas currently has contracts with the Departments of Public Works (\$42,094 contract) and Water and Power (\$115,000 contract).

Based on qualifications and scoring, it is recommended the City enter into a contract with Psomas for an amount not to exceed \$227,000.

The proposed contract will be structured as follows:

Environmental Document and Services for OGAI Project	\$206,325
Contingency Allowance	<u>\$20,675</u>
Contract "Not to Exceed" Amount	\$227,000

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This project is consistent with the City Council's goals to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure, support and promote the quality of life and local economy, and ensure public safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein for professional environmental services to prepare an environmental document and provide environmental permitting assistance for the OGAI project 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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of this contract is \$227,000, and the total cost of this action will be \$277,000. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of the following existing budgeted appropriations in the CIP budget for Hahamongna Watershed Park:

<i>Oak Grove Area Improvements</i>	<i>(budget account 77506)</i>
<i>Habitat Restoration</i>	<i>(budget account 77508)</i>
<i>Berkshire Creek Area Improvements</i>	<i>(budget account 77509)</i>
<i>Disc Golf Course Improvements</i>	<i>(budget account 77516)</i>

It is anticipated that all of the costs will be spent between FY 2018 and FY2019.

Of note, in January 2008 the City was awarded a grant in the amount of \$789,400 from the California Resources Agency under the California River Parkways Program – Proposition 50. These funds were allocated to the Hahamongna – Implement Master Plan – Trail Development (77507) project for the realignment of existing trails and improvements related to the Berkshire Creek restoration. The City has recently been made aware that these funds have been lost due to the City's inability to meet a progress deadline and obtain a grant extension. The following provides some insight into the primary contributing factors that lead to the loss of these funds.

In the summer of 2012 the OGAI project was part of a previous project known as the Hahamongna Multi-Benefit/Multi-Use (MBMU) project. Pursuant to the environmental process associated with that project, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Initial Study were prepared and Community and Scoping Meetings took place. Public input consisted of significant opposition to the proposed plans. In response to community concerns and comments received during the environmental process, the City elected to not move forward with the MBMU project.

The community was informed that a new environmental process would resume once the scope of work for the remaining projects (the five CIP projects mentioned previously in this report) was better known. In October 2012 the City Council approved the staff recommendation to: a) transfer the funds slated for the proposed athletic field in Hahamongna to the Muir High School Field renovation project and remove the soccer field from the design of the project in Hahamongna; 2) remove the portion of the project to restore habitat along the western edge of the Devil's Gate basin; and 3) transfer the funding for this component of the MBMU project to the Arroyo Seco Canyon project.

These changes were significant, took an extensive amount of staff time and impacted the project's schedule. This contract will allow for the environmental review of the remaining projects from the MBMU project, now known as the OGAI project.

Another factor that has delayed the implementation of this project is the impact of the 2009 Station Fire. The Station Fire burned over 160,000 acres, leaving vast areas of the San Gabriel Mountains denuded and susceptible to sediment flows. The storms that occurred in the two wet seasons after the fire increased sediment accumulation in the Hahamongna reservoir by approximately 1,300,000 cubic yards, significantly reducing the available flood control capacity. Later that year LACFCD initiated project planning for a large-scale sediment removal project to remove sediment from the reservoir. The MBMU project was put on hold until information about LACFCD's planning approach, project scope and environmental review process were known.

The loss of these funds may affect the construction scope, however there is sufficient balance in the other CIPs to allow the environmental documentation to proceed.

The following table represents the cost summary:

Environmental Services for OGAI Project	\$206,325
Contingency Allowance	\$20,675
Contract Administration	\$50,000
Total Fiscal Impact	\$277,000

Respectfully submitted,



ARA MALOYAN, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Prepared by:



Rosa Laveaga
Landscape Architect
Parks and Natural Resources Division

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager

Attachment A – FY 2018 CIP – Arroyo Projects - HWP
Attachment B – OGAI Concept Plan
Attachment C – Consultant Scoring and Ranking