

Agenda Report

October 18, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PSOMAS FOR MAINTENANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING SERVICES FOR THE BERKSHIRE CREEK, OAK GROVE, AND LOWER ARROYO SECO HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$628,000

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the project proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the 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 Maintenance, Monitoring, and Reporting Services for the Berkshire Creek, Oak Grove, and Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration Projects in an amount not to exceed \$628,000, which includes the base contract amount of \$546,150 and a contingency of \$81,850 to provide for additional services as deemed necessary for a maximum total contract length of five years. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) (contracts for professional or unique services).

BACKGROUND:

The Hahamongna Watershed Park (HWP) Master Plan and the Lower Arroyo Master Plan are components of the Arroyo Seco Master Plans. The HWP is a 1,300-acre park in the Arroyo Seco that extends from Devil's Gate Dam north into the San Gabriel Mountains. The HWP Master Plan was adopted to establish a framework for recreation, water resources, flood management, habitat restoration, and cultural resources in this area. The Lower Arroyo stretches approximately 1.75 miles from the Colorado Street

Bridge to the City of South Pasadena boundary at the San Pascual Stables. The Lower Arroyo Master Plan was adopted to provide a framework to preserve the cultural resources, restore the habitat, and provide the recreational opportunities unique to this cherished City Cultural Heritage Landmark.

As part of its capital improvement program, the City has completed habitat restoration projects in the Berkshire Creek, Oak Grove and Lower Arroyo Seco areas of the Arroyo Seco Natural Park. The Berkshire Creek and Oak Grove area improvements projects are located in the HWP and met habitat restoration objectives identified in the HWP Master Plan for the improvement of habitat quality, including increasing plant and animal species diversity. Additional enhancements to Berkshire Creek included storm drain channel improvements that were designed to enhance water quality and reduce erosion. The construction of a new pedestrian/equestrian bridge over the creek was also completed to eliminate foot traffic through the creek.

The Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration project is located in the vicinity of the Van de Kamp Bridge (formerly the La Loma Bridge) and met objectives identified in the Lower Arroyo Master Plan to increase plant and habitat diversity for the benefit of wildlife and the enhancement of recreational experiences, using only native plants indigenous to the restoration areas.

To ensure the success of the habitat restoration areas and to meet the obligations of the regulatory permits issued, the City must establish a five-year maintenance and monitoring program for the health and survival of new plants/shrubs and tree plantings, monitoring and removal of non-native/invasive species, replacements due to attrition, water quality testing of Berkshire Creek and annual reporting to federal regulatory agencies.

The scope of services under this contract consists of: 1) Maintenance and monitoring of three habitat restoration projects; and, 2) Reporting services as required by the regulatory permits issued by federal jurisdictional agencies for the projects.

The Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on July 12, 2021 to solicit professional services for Maintenance, Monitoring, and Reporting Services for the Berkshire Creek, Oak Grove, and Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration Projects. The City received three proposals on August 12, 2021 in response to the RFP.

Below is a list of proposers:

Firm	City	Average Score
Helix Environmental Planning	Pasadena	91.7
Psomas	Pasadena	95
RECON Environmental	San Diego	85.3

The proposals were evaluated, scored, and ranked based on the evaluation procedures and criteria set forth in the RFP. Attachment A contains a summary of the of the evaluation scoring.

Based on the evaluation of the proposals, staff is recommending a contract be awarded to Psomas. Psomas operates an office in Pasadena and is headquartered in Culver City, California. Both Psomas and its subcontractor, G Team Landscaping are local Pasadena businesses with intimate knowledge of the Arroyo Seco. Psomas 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 Department of Public Works (On-Call Construction Management and On-Call Project Management) and Department of Water and Power with estimated aggregate expenditures of \$2,082,719.

Based on qualifications and scoring, it is recommended the City enter into a contract with Psomas for an amount not to exceed \$628,000 for maintenance, monitoring, and reporting services at all three restoration sites for a period of five years.

The proposed contract will be structured as follows:

Maintenance, Monitoring and Reporting Services	\$546,150
Contingency Allowance	<u>\$81,850</u>
Contract "Not to Exceed" Amount	\$628,000

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

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

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA in accordance with California Administrative Code Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), 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 CEQA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

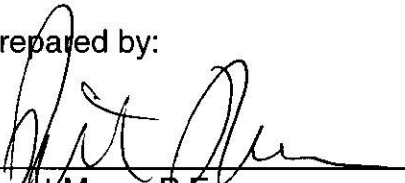
The total cost of this contract and action is \$628,000. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of the existing and future budgeted appropriations in the *Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration (77410)*, *Berkshire Creek Area Improvements (77509)*, and *Oak Grove Area Improvements (77506)* projects.

Respectfully submitted,



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Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager

Attachment A - Consultant Scoring and Ranking