



Agenda Report

December 11, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: REJECTION OF BIDS FOR THE PASADENA TRANSIT SIGNAL PRIORITY SYSTEM AND COMMUNICATIONS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the action proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15061(b)(3), the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment; and
2. Reject all bids received on October 19, 2023, in response to Notice of Inviting Bids for the Pasadena Transit Signal Priority System and Communications Improvements project.

BACKGROUND:

This project provides for the installation of transponders that are compatible with Metropolitan Transit Authority Rapid Bus technology on all of Pasadena Transit buses to provide transit signal priority and improve reliability of transit operations and scheduling. The project includes upgrading 42 intersections citywide to accommodate transit signal priority.

Intersection improvements include installation of new traffic signal controllers, installation of transit signal priority intersection hardware, signal timing updates, software and firmware updates, and other associated upgrades to make the system more functional.

The project corridors include:

- Lake Avenue between California Boulevard and Rio Grande Street

- Raymond Avenue between Glenarm Street and Walnut Street
- Foothill Boulevard between Altadena Drive and Halstead Street

A finding of compliance with the General Plan was previously made and is shown in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget under Implement Bus Signal Priority System on Pasadena Transit Buses, page 5.24.

The Department of Transportation and their design consultant, Iteris, Inc. prepared plans and specifications for this project. Bids were requested and received in accordance with Section 4.08.070 of the Pasadena Municipal Code. On September 21, 2023, a Notice Inviting Bids for was published in the Pasadena Independent now incorporating Pasadena Press as well as posted on Opengov. A total of 45 vendors downloaded the specifications, of which none were local. A total of three bids were received by the bid opening date, none from local vendors.

Submitted bids ranged between \$1,089,780 and \$1,204,843. Upon review of the bids received from this solicitation, staff determined the lowest responsive and responsible bid exceeds the Engineer's Cost Estimate by over 56% and significantly exceeds the project's \$700,000 budget for base construction costs. As such, staff has concluded it is in the City's best interest for City Council to reject all 3 bids received as required by Pasadena Municipal Code. Staff will subsequently value engineer the design plans and specifications and modify the scope of work to better align with the available project budget. These updated construction documents will then be re-advertised for bid and award scheduled in early 2024.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This project is consistent with the City Council's goal to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure, as well as to improve mobility and accessibility throughout the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15061(b)(3), the commonsense exemption that CEQA only applies 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:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

Respectfully submitted,



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for