

Agenda Report

February 26, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FEHR & PEERS FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES TO DEVELOP SAFE STREETS FOR ALL ACTION PLAN FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$249,810

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15061 (b)(3) the Common Sense exemption that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an 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 Fehr & Peers for consultant services to develop Safe Streets for All Action Plan by conducting an outreach campaign and updating the existing Local Roadway Safety Plan for a total not to exceed \$249,810. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) contracts for professional or unique services.

BACKGROUND:

In September 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued a notice of funding opportunity for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant program with up to \$1 billion available in fiscal year 2022 for local, regional, and tribal agencies to enhance roadway safety. The SS4A grant program is divided into two grant opportunities, action plan grants and implementation grants. The action plan grant is intended for agencies to develop a holistic, well-defined strategy to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The implementation grant is intended to fund projects and strategies identified in an action plan.

The City applied for and was awarded funds to develop an Action Plan. The City was awarded \$200,000 with a \$50,000 local match to be expended in the next one to three years.

To develop an Action Plan the City will update the existing Local Roadway Safety Plan by conducting comprehensive public and stakeholder engagement for planned projects/strategies, prioritize the City's existing projects/strategies and develop new projects/strategies that shall prioritize equity and enhance safety. The purpose of the Action Plan is to develop a document involving robust public engagement with stakeholders that identifies significant roadway safety concerns in the City and develops and prioritizes projects and strategies to address the identified safety issues. The Action Plan will allow the City to apply for SS4A implement grants funds to install the projects and strategies identified.

On December 7, 2023, the Department of Transportation (DOT) posted a Request for Proposals (RFP) on OpenGov seeking consultant services to develop an Action Plan within a 13 month work schedule. Proposals were due on January 11, 2024. Forty (40) vendors downloaded the RFP, and three proposals were submitted.

A four-person evaluation committee made up of employees from the Department of Transportation and Department of Public Works reviewed the proposals. Scoring was based on the following criteria: project understanding/approach (40%); staffing/ability to perform (30%); experience (25%); cost proposal (5%). Local preference was not used a scoring criteria, since it is not allowed for federal funds.

Table below show the proposers and their average scoring across all criteria.

Proposers	Project Understanding/ Approach (40)	Staffing/Ability to Perform (30)	Experience (25)	Cost (5)	Total (100)
Fehr & Peers	38.8	28.8	25	3.9	96.42
KOA Corporation	35	24	25	5	89.00
Minagar & Associates, Inc.	25.8	21	25	4.6	76.32

Based on the results, it is recommended Fehr & Peers be awarded the contract for this effort.

Fehr & Peers is a transportation consulting firm who has previously worked with the City developing the Pedestrian Safety Study at Signalized Intersections (a contract value of approximately \$45,000), which identified high collision locations and safety enhancements for those intersections. They also developed the Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Guidance report (a contract value of approximately \$68,000) that provides a toolbox of pedestrian safety enhancements for multiple roadway types and guidelines for their use. In addition, Fehr & Peers updated the City's Travel Demand Forecast model, facilitated community workshops detailing the City's CEQA and Outside CEQA analysis process, and developed performance measures and metrics for use in the General Plan Environmental Impact Review (EIR) process (a contract value of approximately \$106,000). The City has a current contract with the firm for technical transportation studies.

SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

The Department of Transportation has adopted a Safe System Approach to traffic safety, based on national guidance from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Safe System Approach to traffic safety consists of six basic principles: death and serious injuries are unacceptable; humans make mistakes; humans are vulnerable; responsibility is shared; safety is proactive; and redundancy is crucial. The principles and elements of the Safe System Approach were adhered to in developing the RFP for the Safe Streets for All Action Plan.

This effort represents a proactive approach to enhancing roadway safety by prioritizing and developing projects/strategies consistent with the Safe System Approach. A key principle, Responsibility is Shared, will be addressed through comprehensive community engagement to prioritize, and develop projects/strategies to address fatal and serious injuries and create safer roads. In addition, the projects/strategies developed by this effort may address other key principles and objectives of the Safe System Approach.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This project is consistent with the City Council's goal to support and promote the quality of life and local economy. This project is also consistent with Mobility Element Policy 1.7, design streets to achieve safe interaction for all modes of travel particularly for pedestrians and bicycle users.


ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The project has been reviewed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is exempt per Section 15061 (b) (3). The project is covered by the common sense rule that CEQA only applies to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The Safe Streets for All Action Plan will not add or implement materials in a way that would result in any significant effect on the environment.


FISCAL IMPACT:

A portion of funds for this effort was provided by grant funding obtained from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, through the Safe Streets for All Action Plan Grant, as approved by the City Council on October 23, 2023. This grant funding requires a 20% local match. For a contract amount of \$249,810, the local match will be \$49,962. Funding for both the Safe Streets for All Action Plan Grant and the \$49,962 local match are available in the Department of Transportation FY24 operating budget (contract services account 10124003-811400).

Respectfully submitted,



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