TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

ATTENTION: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2004 CMR: 409:04

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GEODESY IN THE AMOUNT OF $130,000 FOR DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT OF NEW COMPUTER APPLICATIONS LINKED TO THE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the attached one-year professional services agreement with Geodesy in the amount of $130,000 for development of computer applications linked to the GIS system.

DISCUSSION

Project Description
The Geographic Information System (GIS) provides accurate citywide property, utility and infrastructure information to all City staff and the public. It is a vital component of the CityWorks initiative for infrastructure management, which has been identified as a Top 5 priority by the City Council. The GIS is a central element of the City’s information infrastructure that is being integrated with several other major information systems including the Police Computer Aided Dispatch System, Records Management System, and the Utilities Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) system. The services to be provided under this agreement are new tasks that will further improve the integration of the GIS with these and other systems. The capabilities of the Police Computer-Aided Dispatch system will be enhanced by Geodesy by creating an active display of all call locations as they are received, greatly improving coordination between dispatching staff. To address the problem of an obsolescent document scanning and storage system, tools will be developed to allow Planning, Building and others to scan, store, and retrieve their documents quickly and easily at a very low cost. Data will be stored in industry-standard formats, allowing users to retrieve it through multiple applications, including the GIS, and making it accessible to future enterprise-wide systems that may be developed.
Existing GIS application capabilities will be improved in the areas of data editing and GIS and Utility CADD data integration. The ability to do editing of utility and other data in the field using mobile computing devices will be implemented and supported by high-level synchronization of the field edits with the enterprise database. Support of the over 300 GIS users in the City will be enhanced through new GIS administration tools. Internet access to the GIS will be extended to make customer self-service capabilities available to much of the information that currently has to be provided by City staff, especially at the City’s development center. These tasks, identified in the attached scope of work, are consistent with the objectives of the GIS Strategic Plan and will improve the system for all GIS users.

SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT
This contract was determined to be exempt from competitive solicitation requirements under Municipal Code Sections 2.30.360 (b) (impractical, unavailing) and 2.30.360 (d) (sole source). Geodesy has been instrumental in the development of Palo Alto’s GIS and related applications, including many of the applications previously mentioned. A competitive solicitation would not have produced any advantage to the City and there is no equivalent service provider available in that Geodesy has a unique understanding of the City’s specialized GIS system, has extensive experience in developing GIS applications for the City, and has expertise in the City’s GIS software environment that another service provider cannot match.

RESOURCE IMPACT
Tasks under this agreement total $130,000. Funds for this project are budgeted in CIP 10215. Based on the Technology Fund Strategic Plan, the Enterprise Fund will pay 60 percent and the General Fund will pay 40 percent of the expenses.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS
This agreement does not represent any change to existing City policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Approval of this agreement does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); therefore, no environmental assessment is required.

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment A: Agreement
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