

From: [Rice, Danille](#)
To: [Council, City](#); [Council Agenda Email](#)
Cc: [ORG - Clerk's Office](#); [Executive Leadership Team](#)
Subject: Council Consent Agenda Question for December 6, 2021
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CITY OF
PALO ALTO

Council Consent Agenda Responses

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of City Manager Ed Shikada, please find below the staff response to questions from Councilmember Cormack regarding the [Monday, December 6 Council Meeting](#) consent agenda item:

Item 4, Approval of contract with Life Insurance Company of North America (CIGNA) for Underwriting of the City of Palo Alto's Group Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D), and Long Term Disability Insurance (LTD) Plans for Up to Three Years for a total not to exceed \$1,920,000.

Item 5, Adoption of a Resolution for the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant Program Authorizing the Application and Receipt of Grant Funds by the City of Palo Alto for the Roth Building (300 Homer Ave) Elevator Restoration

Item 7, Amendment Number 1 to Contract Number C19173686 with OpenCities, Inc. to Add to Increase the Scope of Services to Add Additional Website Functionalities such as a Junior Museum Sub-Website, and Increase the Compensation Amount Accordingly, by \$167,317 for a New Not-to-Exceed Contract Amount of \$434,517 through FY25

Councilmember question and Staff response are below:

Item 4, Title: Approval of contract with Life Insurance Company of North America (CIGNA) for Underwriting of the City of Palo Alto's Group Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D), and Long Term Disability Insurance (LTD) Plans for Up to Three Years for a total not to exceed \$1,920,000.

- 1. Is CIGNA the current provider? Is the proposed price \$640,000 a year and is the current price approximately \$750,000? Are the proposed benefits and costs to employees any different from the existing plan?**

Yes, Cigna is the current provider and the proposed price is \$640,000 per year. The current price is \$750,000 per year with about 50% of this cost funded through employee payroll contributions. There are no changes to the proposed benefits from the existing plan and both employees and the City will realize a cost reduction due to the discounted price of the renewal.

Item 5, Adoption of a Resolution for the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant Program Authorizing the Application and Receipt of Grant Funds by the City of Palo Alto for the Roth Building (300 Homer Ave) Elevator Restoration

- 1. Can these funds be used to replace the elevator or must it be repaired? Do the submitted plans for refurbishing the building include repair or replacement of the elevator?**

The grant application is to repair the existing Otis elevator. The plans to rehabilitate the Roth Building show that the elevator will be repaired. Specifically, on the permit set sheet A-2.11, "(E) Elevator to be restored and returned to working order. Elevator controls to be updated for current accessibility standards."

Does the requirement for the property being open to all Santa Clara County residents on a non-discriminatory basis mean that the History Museum cannot charge visitors for access to the building?

The Museum continues to plan to offer free general admission and will charge for special events like weddings. It is believed that the County grant would allow for a non-discriminatory fee to be charged, however, a specific proposal would need to be vetted with the County (this is being confirmed in coordination with the County). As currently submitted in the grant application a fee was not proposed.

Item 7, Amendment Number 1 to Contract Number C19173686 with OpenCities, Inc. to Add to Increase the Scope of Services to Add Additional Website Functionalities such as a Junior Museum Sub-Website, and Increase the Compensation Amount Accordingly, by \$167,317 for a New Not-to-Exceed Contract Amount of \$434,517 through FY25

- 1. What is a sub website for the Junior Museum and Zoo (e.g., its own domain name without the City of Palo Alto in the address, a different look and feel, additional functionality)? Are there other entities within the City that would benefit from having this type of sub website?**

The Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo sub-website provides special functionality desired for JMZ visitors that showcases zoo animals and activities, distinct from the City website's typical service and project-oriented content. This includes a higher level of graphics and animation, and program-oriented content such as hours, programs, events, and exhibits, as well as memberships, volunteering opportunities, and donations. For improved user experience, the subsite will reflect a new domain (paloaltozoo.org) and ability to transition to a admission ticketing system. At the same time, as a subsite the JMZ will follow the City's standards for content management, which facilitates ongoing staff support and effective cross-training.

Currently, the JMZ is the only subsite currently anticipated. Considerations for other subsites in the future include the specific functionality goals, upfront and ongoing costs, and support requirements including staffing resources and training required for managing content.

Thank you,
Danille

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