



Agenda Item 66

Approvals:

City Manager PPS

Dept. Head Wd

Attorney JAG

Finance RV

AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Date: December 17, 2013

Department: Public Works / Engineering
Prepared By: Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer TB

Subject: *APPROVE EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MARLOWE & COMPANY FOR FEDERAL LOBBYIST ASSISTANCE.*

Fiscal Impact: Yes. The City Council contingency fund balance would be reduced to \$62,050 with this action.

Summary: The current agreement with Marlowe & Company for Federal lobbyist assistance expires at the end of December 2013. This request is to extend the agreement six months to the end of the current Fiscal Year 2014 (June 30, 2014) as further described below.

Discussion: Marlowe & Company has provided Federal lobbyist assistance to the City for many years, with recent efforts focused on including the Corps of Engineers San Clemente Shoreline Erosion Beach Replenishment Project in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill. The San Clemente project is included in the draft bill which Congress is expected to approve and send to the President very early in 2014. Although the contract with Marlowe & Company will expire at the end of this December, there are several Federal issues for which Marlowe & Company's continued service would be helpful, including:

- *Office of Management and Budget (OMB) project funding policy.* Even though the project will get authorized for funding in the upcoming WRDA bill, current policy doesn't support actual appropriation of funding for projects with less than a 2.5 benefit-cost ratio (the City's project has benefit-cost ratio of 1.4). The Marlowe team could help address this issue.
- *New Highway bill.* The 2012 Highway bill will soon expire and a new highway bill will be started, if not completed, in 2014. Any transportation projects or transportation policy issues can be addressed in this bill, including potential grant funding program criteria.
- *Rail bill.* Congress is also expected to pass a Rail Authorization bill sometime in 2014, as the House and Senate Committees with responsibility for rail policy have identified this bill as a major priority after the WRDA bill is finished. The rail bill would provide an opportunity to address any Safety/Quiet Zone policy issues.

Staff recommends extending Marlowe & Company's existing agreement for six months to June 30, 2014. This will allow the City to continue receiving federal lobbyist support through the end of the current Fiscal Year 2014, and provide an opportunity to consider the need for future Federal lobbying support during review

and discussion of the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget and strategic priorities. The proposed six-month agreement extension would be at the same monthly rate of \$3,750, for a total cost of \$22,500. This extension would be funded from the City Council Contingency fund consistent with the existing agreement.

Recommended

Action: STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council:

1. Approve a six-month extension of the existing Professional Services Agreement to retain Marlowe & Company for Federal lobbying and government affairs consulting services through June 30, 2014; and
2. Authorize the transfer of an appropriation in the amount of \$22,500 from the Council Contingency Fund Account No. 001-203-44900 to Account No. 001-411-45800-000-19907 for the Professional Services Agreement extension with Marlowe & Company.

Attachments: None.

Notification: None.

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