

## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** AUGUST 8, 2007

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER

**BY:** NATHAN HAMBURGER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PARSONS TRANSPORTATION GROUP, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE U.S. 101/CHESEBRO ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT**

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The purpose of this item is to receive City Council approval to enter into a professional services agreement with Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., to perform professional engineering services to complete the Project Study Report (PSR) for the U.S. 101/Chesebro Road Interchange project.

This project is being undertaken in an effort to take a proactive approach to future traffic conditions based on future development projects within the vicinity of the U.S. 101/Chesebro Interchange. This was identified and budgeted for within the fiscal year 2007-08 work plan. On June 15, 2007, staff sent out a Request For Qualifications & Proposals (RFQ/RFP) for this project to fifteen (15) of the top West Coast transportation design firms that were identified by a national engineering review council for 2006-2007. The scope of work included analysis of the bridge, the on and off ramps, and a potential two-lane roundabout. The PSR will look at all the feasible alternatives to improve the traffic flow affecting the interchange taking into consideration full build out of the surrounding area.

In an attempt to make this project more attractive to bidders, the PSR and Project Report (PR) and environmental documents were packaged together in one proposal. A pre-proposal meeting was conducted on June 26th in which three engineering firms attended and final technical proposals and separate cost proposals were submitted on July 17, 2007. The City received one proposal from Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., Staff did inquire with the non-responding firms to get an understanding as to why they did not submit a proposal and received four written responses stating that their current workload would not allow them to take on any further projects at this time or that they did not have the staffing available to conduct the work related to a possible roundabout. Staff also received verbal responses from three other firms that stated that this project was too small for them to dedicate staff to at this time.

Staff did meet with Parsons' design staff to discuss the project and scope of work and was impressed with the team that has been assembled for this project. The Project Manager has completed work related to the Kanan Road and Reyes Adobe Road Interchanges through a different engineering design firm and is familiar with the expectations of the community and

staff. Parsons has former Caltrans employees who are well versed in the standards and requirements to work with a non-standard bridge and a possible roundabout adjacent to the bridge and off-ramps.

Staff has reviewed the cost proposal from Parsons and has negotiated an agreeable price of **\$422,000**. The negotiated fee is within the City's adopted project budget. The second portion of the proposal was for the PR and environmental documents and was submitted at approximately \$920,000. At this time, it is staff's recommendation to move forward with only the first phase of the proposal and to continue discussions with Parsons and to reject the second phase of the submitted proposal if an agreeable price cannot be reached. The Public Works Committee has also discussed this item and is recommending the approval of a professional services agreement for the PSR (Phase One) portion of the proposal.

The scope of work for the project includes among other things: topographic mapping, geotechnical investigations, traffic studies, preparing project alternatives along with quantity calculations and cost estimates, landscaping, and environmental studies (cultural, biological, hazardous materials, storm water, air, and noise).

In summary, Parsons has demonstrated that they have significant experience with similar projects, including the possible incorporation of a roundabout, are well versed with State and Federal procedures, and have well qualified design engineering staff to perform the PSR analysis to our expectations. In addition, Parsons has provided an aggressive schedule to complete the work in approximately nine months.

The City Attorney has reviewed the professional services agreement and approved it as to form.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Works Committee and staff respectfully recommend the City Council:

1. Approve the professional services agreement with Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., for the completion of a Project Study Report (Phase One) for the U.S. 101/Chesebro Road Interchange;
2. Authorize the Mayor and City Attorney to sign the agreement on behalf of the City Council;
3. Direct the City Clerk to attest to the contract signatures and forward an original copy of the agreement to Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.;
4. Instruct staff to continue negotiations on Phase Two of the proposal, Project Report and environmental documents, and to bring this item back to the City Council for a formal action within thirty (30) days.

Attachment: Professional services agreement (PSR)