

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 05/03/2010		Item Number: C-5	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with WLC Architects, Inc., to conduct a Structural Evaluation of the Fire Training Tower Located at 9275 Jefferson Boulevard			
Contact Person/Dept: Sammy Romo/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5619	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☐	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: (E-Mail) Agenda and Meetings – City Council (04/28/10); (E-Mail) WLC Architects, Inc. (04/14/10)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (04/22/10)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (04/27/10)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (04/28/10)		City Manager Approval: P. Lamont Ewell (04/28/10)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve a professional services agreement with WLC Architects, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$19,205 for the structural evaluation of the Fire Training Tower (FTT) located at 9275 Jefferson Boulevard.

BACKGROUND:

The (FTT) was built in the early 1970's and was constructed with the intent of training and preparing fire personnel for real life emergency activities. As such, the FTT experiences staged fires which expose the structure to high temperatures which in turn can compromise the structural integrity of the building. The window jambs and metal doors and door jambs have warped and are no longer functional. In some areas, chunks of concrete have come off the building frame, exposing the reinforcing steel. It should be noted that Fire Department personnel from the City of Beverly Hills and the County of Los Angeles also use the FTT for training purposes.

The FTT was previously evaluated by Pacific Technical Services in 1995 and a report was issued which summarized a visual inspection of the FTT and the test results of concrete cores, but did not offer any structural recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

On March 4, 2010, staff released five Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the evaluation of the structural condition of the FTT. The RFP contained the following requirements:

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1. Evaluation of whether the existing building is suitable for continued use in its current state
2. Evaluation of the potential for rehabilitating/retrofitting the existing building for continued use and determination of cost feasibility
3. Evaluation of whether the existing building should be demolished and a new one constructed in its place.

On March 29, 2010, City staff received the following proposals:

CONSULTANT		PROPOSAL AMOUNTS
1	WLC Architects, Inc	\$19,205
2	Brandow & Johnston, Inc.	\$19,950
3	Degenkolb Engineers	\$34,900

Staff reviewed all 3 proposals and determined that WLC Architects, Inc. submitted the most complete and comprehensive proposal. WLC Architects, Inc., along with their sub-consultant R.M. Byrd and Associates, Inc. (structural engineer); has substantial experience in evaluating and designing fire training facilities for other agencies such as the cities of San Diego, Chino, Los Angeles, Rancho Cucamonga, Ontario, and many others . Additionally, they were the architect of record for Culver City Fire Station Number 3.

Should the City Council approve this professional services agreement, the management of the project will be conducted by Public Works Department/Engineering Division staff.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Funds for this project are appropriated in CIP project P-920 (42000920) in the amount of \$20,000.

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve a professional services agreement with WLC Architects, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$19,205 for the structural evaluation of the Culver City Fire Training Tower, Project P-920; and,

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2. Authorize the Public Works Director/City Engineer to approve change orders in the amount not to exceed \$795; and,
3. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents; and,
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.