

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 1/26/2009		Item Number: <u>C-12</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Charles Abbott Associates, Inc. to Provide Inspection Services for Culver City's NPDES Program.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Kaden Young/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-6445	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (01/21/09)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (01/15/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (01/15/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (01/21/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (01/21/09)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council approve a professional services agreement with Charles Abbott Associates, Inc. (CAA), to provide inspection services for Culver City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program in an amount not-to-exceed \$57,150. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> On August 11, 2008, City Council authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals for NPDES inspection services (Attachment 1). Ten proposals were received on September 10, 2008. Staff reviewed the proposals and interviewed the four most qualified firms. CAA was identified as the most qualified firm due to their extensive local experience and superior records management capabilities. <u>DISCUSSION:</u> Staff negotiated a fee in the amount of \$57,150 with CAA to provide NPDES inspection services. In general, the services to be provided consist of the inspection of approximately 500 commercial and industrial sites in Culver City as required by the County-wide NPDES permit (Permit) to reduce storm water pollution. The current Permit requires inspections of certain commercial and industrial sites twice during the intended 60-month term of the Permit or about every 30 months. Culver City complied with this requirement by completing the two rounds of inspections by 2006.			

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A new NPDES permit was expected to be issued in December 2006 by the Regional Water Quality Control Board with further inspections required in 2007 and more inspections later in the permit term. The new NPDES permit has not been issued and further inspections have not been required or conducted.

Regular commercial/industrial site inspections are important to catch violators, educate site employees and to simply keep the storm water message current. The delay in NPDES permit issuance by the Regional Water Quality Control Board has caused a gap in regular inspections.

Staff from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board strongly recommends the City resume its facility inspections regardless of the status of the new NPDES permit. Several area agencies, including West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Los Angeles County, have elected to exceed permit requirements by performing facility inspections annually. It is recommended that Culver City also be proactive and resume its storm water inspection program through the recommended agreement with CAA. Doing so would demonstrate Culver City's good faith effort to comply with storm water regulations and to improve storm water quality.

CAA has performed inspection services for several nearby agencies including the Cities of Torrance, Lawndale and Norwalk. References from these agencies were very favorable.

The proposed agreement includes four optional renewals. These options would be negotiated on an annual basis and approved by the Public Works Director. Rate and fee changes would be based on the State of California consumer price index.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There are sufficient funds in P-497, NPDES - Storm Water Discharge Program (42000497), to cover the proposed agreement cost. Staff is currently exploring the possibility of recovering the cost of this, and other NPDES requirements, through user fee and charges or some other method.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) August 11, 2008 City Council Staff Report
- 2) Proposal submitted by CAA

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MOTION:

That the City Council:

- 1) Approve a professional services agreement with Charles Abbott Associates, Inc. (CAA), to provide compliance inspection services for Culver City's NPDES Program for a not-to-exceed amount of \$57,150.
- 2) Authorize the four optional annual renewals contingent upon the Public Works Director's approval.
- 3) All renewals shall be contingent on available funding programmed and approved by the City Council in the NPDES – Storm Water Discharge Program (42000497), P-497 with rate changes based upon the change in the Consumer Price Index as contained in the Agreement; and
- 4) Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents; and,
- 5) Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.