

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 07/12/2010		Item Number: <u>C-6</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE REQUIREMENT - 1) Reject Bids by Environmental Construction, Inc. and SEMA Construction, Inc. as Non-Responsive; 2) Award a Construction Contract to Pacific Hydrotech Corporation as the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder for the Construction of the Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873; and 3) Approve a Related Budget Amendment.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Andy O'Connell/PW		Phone Number: 310-253-5606	
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 (07/07/2010); (Letter) Environmental Construction Inc., SEMA Construction, and Pacific Hydrotech Corporation (07/07/10)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson(07/01/10)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (07/07/10)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (07/08/10)		City Manager Approval: P. Lamont Ewell (07/08/10)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council: 1) Reject the bids by Environmental Construction, Inc. and SEMA Construction, Inc. due to the bids being non-responsive; and, 2) Award a construction contract to Pacific Hydrotech Corporation, as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the amount of \$1,936,500.00, to complete the necessary work for the Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873; and, 3) Approve a Budget Amendment to appropriate new funding in the amount of \$485,000 for a total of \$2,421,500 the construction of the Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873. <u>(A 4/5th vote is required to approve the budget the amendment.)</u> <u>BACKGROUND:</u> The Braddock Sewer Pump Station (Braddock Station) is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Braddock Drive and Sawtelle Boulevard. Sewer flows from a 720-acre area of Culver City and abutting portions of the City of Los Angeles flow to the Braddock Station and are pumped into a force main in Braddock Drive to			

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

the City of Los Angeles' West Los Angeles Interceptor sewer in Overland Avenue. Approximately 1,500,000 gallons of sewage are pumped through the station on a daily basis. The Braddock Station's last major upgrade was completed in 1986.

In recent years, operational problems at the Braddock Station have increased. Sediment buildup causes sporadic reductions in pump efficiency. The existing gravity inflow pipe connects to the existing wet well at its bottom and any rise in the wet well level causes the upstream piping system to flow full creating a situation where it is difficult to clean or inspect this system. In addition, there has been a frequent problem with rags clogging pumps at the Braddock Station. Due to these operational problems, the SCADA alarm system is often triggered when sewage in the collection well rises higher than pre-determined set points. The Public Works Department Maintenance Operations Division staff pays close attention to the Braddock Station and is frequently called-out on overtime to tend to station maintenance.

On February 1, 2010, the City Council approved the final plans and specifications and authorized the advertising of construction bids for the project.

DISCUSSION:

On June 10, 2010, the City Clerk's Office staff publicly opened bids. Three (3) contractors responded with the following bid amounts:

	<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNTS</u>
1	Environmental Construction, Inc.	\$1,698,360.00
2	SEMA Construction, Inc.	\$1,825,493.53
3	Pacific Hydrotech Corporation	\$1,936,500.00

Staff reviewed each bid for mathematical errors as reported in the base bid totals and found no errors.

The project specifications require that the successful bidder has experience in similar projects as follows: "All qualified bidders shall have successfully completed at least three (3) similar projects in the past seven (7) years, for which construction costs exceeded \$1,500,000 for each project. Two (2) of these projects shall have been built in the State of California. Similar projects shall include the construction of new sewer lift stations (or major rehabilitation), that involved the installation of new wet wells, pumps (preferably submersible), control panels, and emergency notification systems. Other similar projects may include the construction of storm

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

drain or water pump stations with equivalent components.”

Staff reviewed the apparent low bidder's (Environmental Construction, Inc) “Similar Projects List” (refer to Attachment 1) and found that two of the referenced projects did not exceed \$1,500,000. Therefore, staff deemed the bid from Environmental Construction non-responsive.

SEMA Construction, Inc. submitted six similar projects (refer to Attachments 2 and 3). The City of El Segundo was contacted regarding the Douglas Street Gap Closure project and stated that the storm drain lift station portion of this project was minor construction, not comparable to a sewer lift station, and did not exceed \$1,500,000 in cost. The City of Escondido was contacted regarding the Secondary Effluent & Recycled Water Storage Tanks project. City of Escondido stated that the project did not include any pumps or wet wells and was simply the installation of storage tanks. The remaining projects that were listed are either major roadway construction projects or water reservoir type projects that staff have determined not to be comparable to a sewer lift station. In researching the web site for SEMA Construction, Inc., the type of projects that they are experienced in completing are major highways, bridges, dams, reservoirs, and railroads. Staff has determined that SEMA Construction does not meet the minimum requirements of the Specifications. Therefore, staff has deemed the bid from SEMA Construction, Inc. non-responsive.

Pacific Hydrotech Corporation submitted a list of 46 similar projects. Many of these projects were water tank installations and are not considered to be equivalent to a sewer lift station. However, the first three projects that were listed are sewer lift stations (refer to Attachment 4). At the City of Murrieta, the construction manager for the Washington Avenue Lift Station project, was contacted and stated that Pacific Hydrotech Corporation did a commendable job on this project and he would recommend them for our project. At the City of Canyon Lake, the design engineer for the Longhorn Lift Station project, was contacted and gave Pacific Hydrotech Corporation a favorable recommendation. The Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District was also contacted to obtain a recommendation for Pacific Hydrotech Corporation. District staff provided a positive recommendation.

Staff recommends to reject Environmental Construction, Inc. and SEMA Construction, Inc. bids as non-responsive and award the construction contract to Pacific Hydrotech Corporation, as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873.

Construction Management and Geotechnical Construction Inspection Services

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Both construction management, and the geotechnical construction inspection and material testing services will be procured through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The firms to be selected to respond to the RFP will be taken from a list of firms pre-approved by the City Council for construction management and geotechnical inspection services on capital improvement projects. After the RFPs are received, staff will review and select the consultants. The costs for these services are expected to be about \$130,000 and \$50,000, respectively.

Staff is also requesting a 15% contingency on this project. The geotechnical engineering report states that groundwater has been historically present on the site but not in recent soil borings. The specifications indicated that ground water will not be present. If groundwater is encountered, the Contractor may be entitled to a change order to install appropriate dewatering and shoring systems to allow for proper construction.

Should the City Council award the proposed contract, construction of the project will begin in early September 2010 and is expected to be substantially completed in June 2011.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The approved budget inadvertently did not include construction contingency, construction management, and inspection services. Therefore, a budget amendment will be required. The construction contract amount is within the engineer's estimate.

Current Available Project Budget	
Funding Source	Amount
Sewer Enterprise Fund - 20400873	\$1,950,000
Total =	\$1,950,000

Estimated Project Expenses	
Construction Contract	\$1,936,500
15% contingency	\$290,475
Subtotal	\$2,226,975
Construction Management Services	\$130,000
Geotechnical Construction Services (Observation & Testing)	\$50,000
15% contingency	\$27,000
Subtotal	\$207,000
Total Estimated Project Expenses	\$2,433,975

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Total Budget Amendment Required
--

\$485,000

There are sufficient sewer fund bond proceeds available to fund these improvements to the City's sewer infrastructure. If the budget amendment is approved, funds will be appropriated to 20400873.730100 – Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Similar Projects List for Environmental Construction, Inc.
- b. Similar Projects List for SEMA Construction, Inc.
- c. Similar Projects List for Pacific Hydrotech Corporation

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

- 1) Approve a Budget Amendment appropriating \$485,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund balance to line item 20400873.730100 - Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873; and,

A 4/5th vote is required to approve the budget the amendment.

- 2) Reject the bids by Environmental Construction, Inc. and SEMA Construction, Inc. as being non-responsive; and,
- 3) Award a construction contract to Pacific Hydrotech Corporation for the construction of the Braddock Pump Station Upgrade Project, P-873, in the amount of \$1,936,500.00; and,
- 3) Authorize the Public Works Director/City Engineer to approve change orders in the amount not-to-exceed \$317,475 (15% of total estimated project expenses), if necessary; 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.