

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: <u>12/07/09</u>		Item Number: C-2
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Release of a Request for Qualifications for Decorative Gate Design, Engineering, Fabrication, and Installation Services for the Ballona Creek Bikeway Project Adjacent to Overland Avenue.		
Contact Person/Dept.: Helen Kerstein/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5618
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒
Public Hearing: ☐	Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☒
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____
Public Notification: Agenda and Meetings – City Council (12/02/09); (Email) Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission (12/02/09); (Email) Capital Improvement Projects (12/02/09); (Email) Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department Updates (12/02/09); (Email) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (11/25/09); (Email) Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (11/25/09); (Email) County of Los Angeles Public Library (11/25/09); (Email) Culver City Unified School District (11/25/09); (Email) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (11/25/09); (Email) Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (11/25/09); (Email) Ballona Creek Renaissance (11/25/09)		
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (11/24/2009)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (11/30/09)
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Mark Scott (by N. Kimball) (11/30/2009)		City Manager Approval: Mark Scott (12/02/09)
 <u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the release of the attached <i>Call to Artists</i> , Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for design, engineering, fabrication and installation of a decorative gate for the Ballona Creek Bikeway Project, P-900 (Bikeway Project) adjacent to Overland Avenue. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> The Bikeway Project involves improving portions of the Ballona Creek Bikeway between Overland Avenue and the Pedestrian bridge located approximately 1000 feet west of Overland Avenue in order to restore natural habitat, enhance the Creek and bike path environment, and create educational opportunities. The Bikeway Project was originally included as a part of the 2003/2004 Ballona Creek Pedestrian Bridge Replacement project, but was dropped because other elements of the Bridge Replacement proved to be more expensive than originally anticipated. Staff continued to seek funding for the Bikeway Project and, in 2007, received a Proposition 50 grant of \$60,000 for design and planning. In fall 2007, the design for the Bikeway Project was completed. One important component of this		

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design is an enhanced entry gate at the service roadway entrance to the Creek located off of Overland Avenue and adjacent to the Julian Dixon County Library.

Since the completion of the plans in 2007, construction of the Bikeway Project, including the decorative gate, has been delayed because of limited financial resources. In early 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which included funding for “shovel-ready” infrastructure projects. Through ARRA, the City applied for and was granted \$476,174 in funding for the Bikeway Project, making it possible to proceed with construction of the project. However, prior to construction, additional design work was required to address County of Los Angeles plan check requirements. On November 16, 2009, the City Council approved a contract amendment adding \$18,000 to the landscape architect’s contract in order to cover this additional work.

DISCUSSION:

The decorative entry gate located off of Overland Avenue is a key piece of the Bikeway Project. It will provide a functional and aesthetically-pleasing entrance to the bikeway that will enhance the experience there for residents and visitors alike.

Decorative gates similar to the one proposed currently exist along both the LA River and along other parts of the Ballona Creek Bikeway at Centinela Avenue, Sepulveda Boulevard, Inglewood Boulevard, and McConnell Avenue entrances to the Creek. The decorative gate proposed for the entrance to the Creek located off of Overland Avenue is intended to reflect the identity of Culver City, while still maintaining a style consistent with the existing gates. This should ensure that the gate is unique but still contributes to a sense of continuity along the Creek.

The attached *Call to Artists* (RFQ) envisions using a two-stage selection process for identifying and selecting the artist to design and fabricate the proposed gate. Pending City Council approval, the first step will be to reach out to Southern California-based artists via a combination of mailing lists, list-serves and web postings requesting statements of qualification, including letters of introduction, resumes and images of past work.

All qualified submissions (deemed timely and complete) will then be reviewed by a Selection Panel composed of staff members from the Public Works and Community Development Departments, members of the Cultural Affairs Commission’s Public Art Subcommittee, and an outside art professional. The Selection Panel will select a short list of qualified artists. Short-listed artists will then be asked to prepare an original art concept and detailed cost estimate. The Selection Panel will reconvene to review the final proposals and interview the artists. The Selection Panel’s recommendation will then be forwarded to the City Council for consideration.

Assuming City Council approval, below is a projected timeline for the decorative gate portion of the Bikeway Project:

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Task	Time Frame
City Council authorizes release of Call to Artists (RFQ)	December 7, 2009
Release of Call to Artists (RFQ)	December 8, 2009
Response to RFQ due	January 12, 2010
Selection of short list	February 9, 2010
Phase 2 proposal due	March 9, 2010
Award contract	May 4, 2010
Fabrication and installation	Spring and Summer 2010

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The estimated cost of the design, engineering, fabrication, and installation of the gate is \$25,000, which will be funded using the \$476,174 in ARRA funds the City has already been awarded for the Bikeway Project. An additional \$340,000 is needed to fully fund the entire Project. The additional funds are anticipated to come from a combination of sources, including potentially: 1) ARRA funds secured for other projects but not fully expended; 2) an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program grant, if secured; or 3) local sources such as New Development Impact Fees. As additional funds become available, City Council will be asked to consider budget amendments to appropriate the funds and move forward with additional phases of the project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Call to Artists*

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Release the *Call to Artists* (RFQ) for Decorative Gate Design, Engineering, Fabrication, and Installation Services for the Ballona Creek Bikeway Project Adjacent to Overland Avenue