

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

Meeting Date: 03/12/12	Item Number: <u>C-3</u>
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: (1) Approval of the Final Plans and Specifications and (2) Authorization of the Advertisement of Bids for the Robertson Boulevard Pedestrian/Transit Connection Improvements Project, P-943	
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 (03/08/12)	
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (03/01/12)	City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/07/12)
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by K. Marsden) (03/07/12)	City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (03/07/12)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council: (1) approve the final plans and specifications and (2) authorize advertising for bids for the Robertson Boulevard Pedestrian/Transit Connection Improvements Project, P-943.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

With the coming of the MTA Exposition Light Rail Transit Project (EXPO) in Culver City, the eastern side of Robertson Boulevard between Washington Boulevard and Venice Boulevard will serve as an on-street transit center for buses. In order to better support this use, this project proposes the following transit and pedestrian improvements:

- Removal of existing asphalt pavement and replacement with concrete pavement at the location of five (5) bus parking areas.
- Removal of existing sidewalk and replacement with new sidewalk that meets the accessibility requirements of the American With Disabilities Act.
- Removal of nine (9) street trees and replacement of five (5) of those trees with the same species trees, grates and root barrier (see below for more detailed discussion).
- Pedestrian lighting and related electrical conduit and equipment
- Street tree up lighting and related electrical conduit and equipment.

Street Tree Removal and Replacement:

There are nine (9) mature Canary Island Pine trees planted along the eastern side of Robertson Boulevard. These trees have caused uplifting of the public sidewalk,

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necessitating sidewalk replacement before the project site can function as a transit center. In order to implement the sidewalk replacement, staff considered root pruning or removal of the trees. Two separate reports have been prepared analyzing the condition of these trees with recommendations for removal. After reviewing the reports and inspecting the trees and site improvements, Public Works Department staff determined that removal of trees was the best approach. The removal of all trees is proposed due to the size of the trees, the large amount of root pruning required, and the potential negative impacts to the stability of the trees.

Public Works Department staff is recommending partial replanting because of the proximity of existing private property trees along the northern half of the project site. The existing American Sweetgum and other trees in this area have been competing with the Canary Island Pines for sunlight. The result has been that the American Sweetgum trees have not been able to develop to their full potential. Removal of the pines will allow the American Sweetgum to improve, while also providing aesthetic and shading benefits to the public right-of-way. The five (5) trees to be replaced are recommended because there are no adjacent private property trees. The replacement trees will be 48"-box Canary Island Pines. The planting sites will be significantly larger than the existing tree wells approximately 4' x 8' to 4' x 12' tree wells and prepared to stimulate deep root growth to avoid future sidewalk uplifting.

Under the oversight of City staff and per the general on-call civil engineering services contract with the City, E.W. Moon, Inc. completed the design and preparation of the plans and specifications for this project.

Project plans and specifications are available for review at the Engineering Division counter on the 2nd floor in City Hall.

The Award of a construction contract is anticipated in May 2012.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued to consultants on the City's on-call general civil engineering list for construction inspection services.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Proposed Project Budget	
Funding Source	Amount
P-943 FTA/ARRA Grant (20368100.732120)	\$251,640
Total	\$251,640

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Estimated Project Expenses	
Design Services	\$15,156
Construction	\$194,836
Construction Inspection Services	\$20,000
Subtotal	\$229,992
10% Construction Contingency	\$21,648
Total Estimated Project Expenses	\$251,640

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the final plans and specifications for the Robertson Boulevard Pedestrian/Transit Connection Improvements Project, P-943; and,
2. Authorize advertising for bids for construction of the Robertson Boulevard Pedestrian/Transit Connection Improvements Project, P-943.