



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 14, 2006

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Contract For Professional Services For Preparation Of Americans With Disabilities Act Survey And Transition Plan Report

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Gilda Puente-Peters, Architects (GPPA) in the amount of \$215,870, for professional services for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Survey and Transition Plan Report, and approve expenditures up to \$43,174 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work, for a total of \$259,044; and
- B. Appropriate \$166,681 from General Fund Unappropriated Reserve Funds to the Fiscal Year 2007 Public Works Engineering Division budget.

INTRODUCTION:

The ADA requires that public agencies operate each service, program, or activity in such a way that when viewed in their entirety, they are accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. In order to comply with this requirement, an analysis of the physical accessibility to facilities, as well as an assessment of City programs, services, and activities is required. The recommended contract will provide for an updated Architectural Barrier and Program Accessibility Analysis, and staff training in various aspects of accessible compliance.

DISCUSSION:

BACKGROUND

The ADA was enacted July 26, 1990. The ADA requires all public entities with more than 50 employees to prepare a Self-evaluation and Transition Plan. Program accessibility could be achieved by a number of methods, including but not limited to: alteration of existing facilities to remove architectural barriers, the relocation of activities or services from inaccessible to accessible buildings, the redesign of equipment,

REVIEWED BY: _____ Finance _____ Attorney

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assignment of accessibility aides, home visits, or delivery of services at alternate accessible sites. Where physical modifications of facilities were determined to be necessary to achieve program accessibility, the public agencies were required to implement a Transition Plan to achieve these changes by 1995.

During 1991 and 1992, the City completed a self-evaluation and transition plan; individuals with disabilities were provided the opportunity to participate in the development of both plans; the plans were made available for inspection by the public in an accessible location; and an ADA grievance procedure was established for processing complaints.

The City has made further progress in removing architectural barriers in public buildings as part of any new construction and as part of remodels and focused accessibility improvements. Examples include remodeling of the Police Department Lobby, City Hall Basement, and the Eastside Library Restrooms. Initially, the City repaired and installed new sidewalks and handicapped ramps as part of the annual Capital Program.

It has been over 15 years since the City completed a comprehensive review of program accessibility and architectural barriers. After reviewing the City's existing documents, as well as other Cities' ADA practices, City staff concluded that an update of the City's Plans would be appropriate.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GPPA's work will be phased to allow for the quick and efficient identification of necessary Capital Improvements for improved public accessibility. The work will include an Accessibility Survey; an ADA Transition Plan Update; a Self-evaluation Update Report; a customized Disabled Access Compliance Training Program for selected City staff; and a general evaluation of the City's public right-of-way. It is anticipated that some recommendations will be included in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2008-09 Financial Plan Capital Program.

In summary, the work will include:

- PART 1: General Fund Facilities Accessibility Survey, Transition Plan And Self-Evaluation Update, and Training
- PART 2: Enterprise Fund Facilities Accessibility Survey and Transition Plan Update
- PART 3: General Evaluation Of Public Right-Of-Way

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project management will include a multi-departmental Steering Committee. The Committee will meet regularly with GPPA to review contract progress and assist in developing a prioritized list of potential Capital Improvements. Presentations to the City's Access Advisory Committee will also be made at appropriate intervals.

FUNDING

The cost of Part 1 will be funded by the General Fund at \$166,681.75. Staff recommends that the General Fund funding be from unappropriated reserves. Part 2 will be funded from six Enterprise Funds (Airport, Golf, Parking, Wastewater, Water, and Waterfront) a cost of \$80,365.50. Part 3 will be funded from the Streets Fund at \$11,996.75. The total cost of Parts 1, 2, and 3 is \$259,044.

The \$80,365.50 for the six Enterprise Funds amounts to \$13,394.25 each. Funds have been identified within existing appropriation authority for the Airport, Golf, Waterfront, Water, Wastewater, and Parking to fund these costs. The final cost per Fund will be tracked for a final accounting of costs.

SCHEDULE

The consultant will provide the City with Project progress deliverables as they are completed; i.e., accessibility survey reports, policies, training, and at the end of each phase, the ADA Transition Plan for each phase. This will allow the City to start using and implementing changes to facilities and policies as the project progresses without having to wait until its final completion. At this time, it is anticipated to take 18 months to complete all the work.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with GPPA in the total amount of \$259,044 for preparing an ADA Survey and Transition Plan of City facilities and provide Disabled Access Compliance Training. GPPA has completed an initial review and is experienced in this type of work.

PREPARED BY: Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer/cw

SUBMITTED BY: Anthony J. Nisich, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office