

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 05/23/23

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 23-0432

**LOG NAME:** 20SWM LINWOOD ENGINEERING SERVICES

## **SUBJECT**

(CD 9 / Future CD 9) Authorize Execution of an Engineering Agreement with Halff Associates, Inc. in the Amount of \$1,000,000.00 for Conceptual Planning, Program Development, and Design Services for the Linwood and West 7th Flood Mitigation Program

---

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize execution of an engineering agreement with Halff Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for conceptual planning, project development and design services for the Linwood and West 7th Flood Mitigation project (City Project No.104868).

---

## **DISCUSSION:**

This Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize execution of an engineering contract with Halff Associates, Inc. to perform conceptual planning, program development and design services for the Linwood and West 7th Flood Mitigation Project.

The Linwood residential area and West 7th commercial area is a critical and high priority for flood mitigation. In the Linwood area, there is a complex and interconnected system of undersized storm drains with a significant amount of stormwater runoff draining to the area resulting in significant roadway, property and structure flooding during frequent storm events. Similarly, the West 7th area, which is adjacent and connected to the Linwood area, has an undersized storm drain system resulting in flooding during frequent storm events. Both areas outfall into the Trinity River through flap gates or sluice gates which impact the ability of the system to effectively drain into the river when the river is at flood stage. During the August 21-22, 2022 storm event, 27 structures were reported as flooded in the Linwood residential area. Since the City began tracking reports of flooding electronically in 2009, approximately 147 incidents of flooding, including structure, vehicle, road flooding, and high-water rescues have been reported in these areas. The City has conducted multiple flood studies in the area indicating that possible solutions may exist but have a cost of over \$110,000,000.00 to implement.

The work in this engineering contract will further investigate potential solutions and develop a feasible overall plan for the area. The work will include phases which, when constructed, would result in reductions in flood depths and mitigate flood risk. The contract is a task order contract, and task orders will be issued as the work advances. The cost of each task order will be based on an agreed-upon scope and the hours worked at agreed-upon hourly rates. Staff considers the proposed hourly rates to be fair and reasonable for the size and complexity of the contemplated projects. The work will ultimately include conceptual planning, project development, defining the feasible project phases, preparing an overall implementation plan and schedule, identifying and mitigating risks for each phase, preparing engineering plans for construction, and construction phase services. This initial agreement will be amended as additional funds become available, and the project scope becomes more defined.

In January 2023, the Transportation and Public Works Department (TPW), Capital Delivery Division, published a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Linwood and West 7th Flood Mitigation Engineering services. Six consultants responded to the RFQ for the Program Development and Design Services with Statements of Qualifications (SOQ). An evaluation team of City staff subject matter experts from the Capital Delivery and Stormwater Divisions of TPW scored the SOQ's based on company experience, project manager experience, prior projects, and work type and project understanding. Respondents to the RFQ were scored and, based on this scoring, Halff Associates, Inc. was selected as the most qualified consultant to perform conceptual planning, project development and design services for this project.

The 2023 Stormwater Revenue Bond will fund this engineering agreement. The Revenue Bond sale was approved by Mayor and Council on May 11, 2023, and funds are anticipated to be available on June 15th. Funds will not be encumbered or expended until they are available from the bond sale.

This task order contract will serve current and future capital projects as-needed, and a funds availability verification will be performed by Transportation & Public Works Contract Compliance Managers prior to task order assignment.

Funding will be available in the Large Flood Mitigation project within the Drainage Rev Bonds Series 2023 fund for the purpose of funding the Linwood & W 7th Flood Mitigation projects after the sale of Stormwater Revenue bonds.

Funding for this project was not included in the FY2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program due to Linwood not being identified as a project at the time. This action in this M&C will amend the FY 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program as approved in connection with Ordinance 25773-09-2022.

Business Equity Office: HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC. is in compliance with the City's Business Equity Ordinance by committing to 8% MWBE participation on this project. The City's MWBE goal on this project is 8%.

This project is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 9/FUTURE COUNCIL DISTRICT 9.

---

**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that funds will be available after the sale of Stormwater Revenue bonds in the Large Flood Mitigation project within the Drainage Rev Bonds Series 2023 Fund and upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the Linwood & W 7th Flood Mitigati project to support the approval of the above recommendations and award of the agreement. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Transportation & Public Works Department has the responsibility of verifying the availability of funds.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** William Johnson 5806

**Originating Business Unit Head:** Lauren Prieur 6035

**Additional Information Contact:** Linda Young 2485

Expedited