



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 19, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facilities Division, Waterfront Department

SUBJECT: Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Project

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council increase appropriations from \$250,000 previously approved to the amount of \$320,000 in the Harbor Preservation Fund from available reserves for the Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Project for a total appropriations increase of \$70,000.

DISCUSSION:

Located in the northeast corner of the harbor, Sea Landing accommodates tens of thousands of visitors annually. Many participate in activities offered at the location such as whale watching, sport diving and sport fishing. Sea Landing also serves as the federally designated "secure facility" for passengers disembarking from cruise ships. With a recent increase in cruise ship visits, the number of people passing through the Sea Landing area has increased significantly. Sea Landing provides many visitors with their first impression of Santa Barbara.

Maintenance of Sea Landing's main building is the tenant's responsibility. The adjacent sidewalk and landscaping, however, are the Waterfront's responsibility and are currently in poor condition. With the significant increase in visitors, staff contracted with Arcadia Landscaping to design improvements to areas within Waterfront's area of responsibility with a goal of making the area safer and more aesthetically appealing.

Arcadia prepared detailed plans to improve the sidewalk, install a handrail, and enhance the landscaping to be consistent with the rest of the Waterfront. The sidewalk component includes 300 linear feet of new concrete with a tile mosaic of the City seal. A new handrail (where there currently is none) will run along the harbor side of the walkway. New landscaping consisting of palms and drought-tolerant plants will replace diseased myoporum trees currently located along the walkway.

Similar improvements were considered as part of the RDA-funded West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project in 2009 but were never approved or constructed. The current project as proposed was approved by the City's Architectural Board of Review

on September 24, 2012 and found to be in substantial conformance with PC Resolution 016-08 for the West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project, approved by the Planning Commission on November 1, 2012.

Council considered this project as part of the Waterfront's Fiscal Year 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The cost estimate for the entire project was \$250,000 for design, landscaping, and sidewalk improvements. Council's approval of the Waterfront's Fiscal Year 2014 budget appropriated \$250,000 for the Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Project.

In July, the landscape component of the project was bid out separately from the sidewalk. Gosnell Tree and Landscape submitted a low bid of \$85,000 and completed the project in August. A small area of additional landscaping was added to the contract for a total landscaping cost of \$100,075.

The sidewalk component of the project was recently put out to bid. Acacia Erosion Control submitted a low bid of \$205,305. The Waterfront has contracted \$14,500 for design services and spent \$100,075 for landscaping. The recent bid for the sidewalk component puts the total project cost at \$319,880, approximately \$70,000 over the original cost estimate.

Staff recommends that Council appropriate an additional \$70,000 for the Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Project to allow for construction of these improvements this winter. The Waterfront Department's Harbor Preservation Fund contains adequate reserve funds to cover this additional appropriation.

PREPARED BY: Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office