



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: February 2, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Contract With The County Of Santa Barbara For Licensed Review Of Maps And Subdivisions

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City professional services contract with the County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department, in the amount of \$35,000, in a manner approved as to form by the City Attorney, for professional land surveyor services.

DISCUSSION:

The City is required under Section 66416.5 of the California Government Code (CGC) to have a person on staff or under contract who is authorized to perform professional land surveying functions. These functions include preparation, examination, or approval of surveying maps and documents and shall only be performed by a person authorized to practice professional land surveying pursuant to the Professional Land Surveyors Act or a person registered as a civil engineer prior to January 1, 1982. This work can be performed by a City Engineer or a City Surveyor if these requirements are met. If no person within a city is authorized to practice professional land surveying, the City Engineer shall contract with a person who is authorized to practice professional land surveying functions.

Until recently, the City Engineer was a civil engineer registered with the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists prior to January 1, 1982, and was authorized to prepare, examine, or approve the surveying maps and documents. Because the newly hired City Engineer was registered as a Civil Engineer after January 1, 1982, the professional land surveying functions must now be delegated to a person specifically authorized to practice professional land surveying. Since the City does not currently employ a person registered to perform professional land surveying functions, these services need to be contracted out to a third party who is appropriately licensed.

The City has approached the County of Santa Barbara's Public Works Department (County) with a request to provide professional land surveying services. State law authorizes the County Surveyor to perform any and all duties assigned to the City Engineer as they relate to professional land surveying, if the legislative bodies agree. The City's Public Works Department is currently recruiting a Principal Engineer position with credentials to perform professional land surveying services. However, there is an immediate need for professional land surveyor functions until an appropriately licensed staff person is hired.

The contract between the County and City for land surveying services has been scheduled for a hearing and approval with the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors on February 2, 2016. The City has been requested to appoint Aleksandar Jevremovic, County Surveyor, as a person authorized to practice professional land surveying, for the purposes of acting on behalf of the City. This is a necessary action in order to be able to prepare, examine, or approve surveying maps and documents until an appropriately licensed staff person is hired. The County Land Survey Services would include Subdivision Map Act related technical review of maps, preparation of legal descriptions, and approval for recordation of City-approved projects including, but not limited to, review of Parcel and Final Maps, Lot Line Adjustments, Voluntary Mergers, Certificates of Correction, Records of Survey, and Certificates of Compliance.

FUNDING:

The City and County have similar fees for land surveying services. The City will charge applicants fees in accordance with the latest City fee resolution for such services. The County will charge the City fees in accordance with their fee structure. City staff will monitor projects on a case-by-case basis to ensure the revenues for land survey services do not exceed the cost of providing the land survey services. There are sufficient funds in the Public Works Land Development Program to cover the cost of this contract, due to salary savings.

PREPARED BY: John Ewasiuk, Principal Civil Engineer/kts

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office