Agenda Item No._____

File Code No. 530.04

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 26, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Contract For Preliminary Design Of The Mason Street Bridge Replacement Project

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

A. Accept Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Highway Bridge Program (HBP) grant funding in the total amount of $354,120;
B. Authorize the increase of estimated revenues and appropriations by $354,120 in the Fiscal Year 2010 Streets Fund for design of the Mason Street Bridge Replacement Project (Project); and
C. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute a professional services contract with Bengal Engineering (Bengal) in the amount of $197,130 for preliminary design services for the Project, and authorize the General Services Manager to approve expenditures of up to $19,713 for extra services of Bengal that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

BACKGROUND

The Mason Street Bridge (Bridge) was constructed in 1955. The replacement of the Bridge is an integral part of the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project (LMC Project). The LMC Project is a joint effort between the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Santa Barbara County Flood Control, and the City. The LMC Project is intended to reduce flooding on the lower portions of Mission Creek and spans approximately 1.3 miles of the Mission Creek channel, from Canon Perdido Street to Cabrillo Boulevard. This reach of the LMC Project is subject to flooding that affects residents, businesses, and transportation facilities including the nearby railroad station, resulting in significant damage to property and productivity. Currently, Mission Creek can handle only an 8-year storm event. After the LMC Project improvements are completed, recent calculations show that the capacity will be increased to contain a 20-year storm event (3,400 cubic feet per second). In addition to improving water conveyance, final channel improvements will enhance aquatic habitat, and restore some of the native plant and tree species.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City has initiated this Project to replace a hydraulically deficient bridge over Lower Mission Creek. Design will include lengthening the Bridge to improve hydraulic conveyance underneath, retaining wall designs to accommodate the future LMC Project, bridge railing designs, sidewalk and street enhancements, street and utility realignments, and associated work.

Through Caltrans, the City has applied for and been granted authorization to proceed with design of the Project. HBP funds will be used to reimburse the City for 88.53% of design, right of way, and construction costs. The City will be required to pay 11.47% of eligible project costs. Future phases of work, namely, right of way and construction, are also eligible for funding at the same rates pending authorization to proceed with work.

DESIGN PHASE ENGINEERING SERVICES

Engineering firms were selected as part of a Request for Qualifications process that followed Caltrans requirements. Firms were rated based upon their qualifications and technical proposals. A short list of firms was developed and interviews were conducted with the top candidates. Based upon the proposals and interviews, the most qualified engineering firm was asked to provide a cost proposal to perform the work. Negotiations with Bengal resulted in a fair and reasonable contract price of $197,130 for preliminary design services, $19,713 for extra services totaling $216,843.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The LMC Project has undergone extensive public review, as memorialized in the Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Impact/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). Bengal was directed to use the EIR/EIS as a basis for their designs. In addition, there are elements of public outreach included in Bengal's scope of services. This Project will also be reviewed by the Historic Landmarks Committee. Additional public information is available on the Public Works Department's Engineering Division webpage, under "Lower Mission Creek Bridge Projects".

FUNDING

The following summarizes estimated total Project costs, with the City share being 11.47%:

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

MASON STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT			
Task	**Total Cost**	**Federal Share**	**City Share**
Preliminary Engineering Design (By Contract)	$216,843	$191,971	$24,872
Other Preliminary Design Costs (By Contract and City Staff)	$130,000	$115,089	$14,911
Subtotal Preliminary Design	**$346,843**	**$307,060**	**$39,783**
Estimated Final Design Costs (By Contract and City Staff)	$630,000	$557,739	$72,261
Estimated Right of Way Costs (By Contract and City Staff)	$5,000,000	$4,426,500	$573,350
Estimated Construction Costs (By Contract and City Staff)	$4,900,000	$4,337,970	$562,030
Subtotal Future Phases	**$10,530,000**	**$9,322,209**	**$1,207,791**
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$10,876,843**	**$9,629,269**	**$1,247,574**

On behalf of the FHWA, Caltrans has given the City approval to proceed with reimbursable work on the design phase. The net cost to the City for preliminary design is anticipated to be $39,783. Appropriation of the HBP grant combined with existing City Streets Funds will provide sufficient funds to cover the cost of preliminary design.

The estimated funds for the City's matching share of final design, right of way, and construction are intended to be programmed in Fiscal Years 2011, 2012, and 2013, pending final proposed budget and approval by Council. Much of the City's match is anticipated from revenues generated through the sale of property acquired for the construction of the Haley/De la Vina Street Bridge. In accordance with the HBP, revenues from the sale of this property must be used as matching funds on another bridge project.

Project costs will be reevaluated after the preliminary design is completed. At that time, staff will request an adjustment to approved amounts through FWHA/Caltrans to complete the designs. After approval of adjusted amounts, staff will request Council's authorization to proceed with final design and construction.

PREPARED BY: John Ewasiuk, Principal Civil Engineer/JC/sk

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office