



Office of the City Manager

**RECESS ITEM**  
CONSENT CALENDAR  
 September 14, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: Liam Garland, Director, Department of Public Works  
 Subject: Contracts: TBWBH Props and Measures and V.W. Housen & Associates  
 for Vision 2050 Implementation Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt two Resolutions ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during recess to execute contracts with:

1. TBWBH Props and Measures for one year in an amount not to exceed \$175,000; and
2. V.W. Housen & Associates for one year in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, for Vision 2050 Implementation Services.

NEGATIVE EFFECT IF ACTION IS DELAYED UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL RECESS

Awarding these contracts permits City Council and staff to keep on track with implementation of Vision 2050. Delaying award until after recess would risk the project going off-schedule and result in less time and opportunity for robust public engagement in advance of City Council's decision in the spring of 2022 on whether to place an infrastructure-focused revenue measure on the November 2022 ballot.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding from the General Fund (Fund 011) in the amount of \$400,000 was approved by the City Council in the FY22 budget for Vision 2050 Implementation.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Berkeley's infrastructure dates to the early decades of the 20th century. Critical systems that we depend on every day are wearing out. Aging infrastructure is costly to maintain. For residents, workers, and businesses trying to go about their daily lives, infrastructure improvements must be a priority. Additionally, affordable housing is severely constrained and there is a need for significantly more affordable housing.

Now, as we begin to grapple with Berkeley's \$1 billion in infrastructure needs and deep affordable housing shortages, new challenges are emerging. The local impacts of global climate change are a major threat to our aging infrastructure. Extreme storm events, wildfires, heatwaves, drought, and sea level rise will challenge infrastructure that was

designed for a more benign environment. All of this will be happening as we wait and prepare for the next major earthquake. If our city is to survive and thrive, we must confront these challenges.

The Vision 2050 initiative was announced by Mayor Arreguin at his 2017 State of the City address to meet these challenges. Berkeley voters approved Measure R in November 2018. The measure asked: “Shall the measure, advising the Mayor to engage citizens and experts in the development of Vision 2050, a 30-year plan to identify and guide implementation of climate-smart, technologically-advanced, integrated and efficient infrastructure to support a safe, vibrant and resilient future for Berkeley, be adopted?” The response was a resounding yes. A residents’ task force of over 40 members was formed and the group worked for 18 months to prepare a framework to modernize Berkeley’s infrastructure. Their report, *Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure, Creating a Better Future for Berkeley*, was approved by City Council in September 2020.

In December 2020, the City Manager convened a working team comprised of contributors to the Vision 2050 framework and City staff. This team was tasked with turning Vision 2050 into reality and kicked off with a draft implementation plan that was presented to the Vision 2050 steering committee, Disaster and Fire Safety Commission, Energy Commission, Public Works Commission, Parks and Waterfront Commission, and Transportation Commission. On March 16, 2021, City Council held a budget workshop and gave input on the Vision 2050 implementation plan. The adopted budget included \$400,000 for key tasks to advance the Vision 2050 implementation plan. This budget enables the requisite pre-work leading up to the Council’s decision on whether to place an infrastructure-focused revenue measure on the November 2022 ballot. The pre-work includes financial and bonding capacity analysis, robust public engagement, assessment of capital delivery, and creation of a program plan.

Ratification of these consultant contracts enables consultant support for a robust public engagement process, assessment of capital delivery, and creation of a program plan. After adoption of the FY 2022 budget, staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP), Specification No. 21-11463-C, and received two proposals, and executed contracts during recess with TBWB for communications, surveying, and public engagement; and V.W. Housen & Associates for assessment of our current capital delivery and creation of the program plan.

### BACKGROUND

The Vision 2050 report recommended a doubling of capital investment to address Berkeley’s current \$1+ billion in public infrastructure needs. At the same time, the need for affordable housing has never been as pressing and as much of a threat to our sustainability.

Paul Buddenhagen, Deputy City Manager, is leading an interdepartmental team in this work and will be assisted by the existing Vision 2050 working Team, comprised of contributors to the Vision 2050 framework and City staff. To advance Vision 2050, the implementation plan included the following tasks:

- Community engagement. The work shall include an active website, community forums, community survey and other activities. Input will be sought on infrastructure priorities through a variety of methods and two surveys will be conducted to help assess Berkeley's willingness to support an infrastructure-focused revenue measure. Results of the first survey and public engagement process will be shared with City Council in November 2021. TBWBH Props and Measures and its subconsultant Lake Research Partners will assist in this work.
- Evaluate funding options. There are various funding options to consider, and different asset groups will have different funding options. Those options will be evaluated. Consideration shall be given to funding options for both capital improvements and funding on-going maintenance. This work also includes a bonding capacity study. The Finance Department is using the City's Municipal Financial Adviser and an additional bonding capacity consultant for this work.
- Program delivery assessment. This task will evaluate the City's organizational capability to implement a major capital program. The work shall learn from the efforts of Measure M, Measure T1 and other City capital programs. The work shall also learn from other cities that have implemented major capital programs. The work product will be a recommendation on how the City should organize to construct and maintain its infrastructure if a more robust capital investment is made. V.W. Housen & Associates will conduct this assessment.
- Prepare a Program Plan. The information gathered above will be compiled into a Program Plan. It will plan the construction of infrastructure improvements over a longer time period, describe funding options, a project delivery approach, the community engagement process to date, and possible oversight if a revenue measure will be successful. City Council will consider the Program Plan in advance of a decision in spring 2022 on whether to move forward with a November 2022 revenue measure or measures. V.W. Housen & Associates will assist in the preparation of this plan.

With ratification of these contracts, this project will remain on schedule.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Implementing Vision 2050 would result in public infrastructure that is more resilient, creates fewer greenhouse gases, and reduces conflict between our built and natural environment. More affordable housing in Berkeley would reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by employees finding lower cost housing farther away from employment centers and requiring longer commutes.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Awarding of these contracts in recess ensured the project remains on schedule and can include a robust public engagement process.

**ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED**

No alternative actions were considered for this project.

**CONTACT PERSON**

Liam Garland, (510) 981-6303

**Attachment:**

1. Resolution - TBWBH Props and Measures
2. Resolution - V.W. Housen & Associates

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: VISION 2050 IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES WITH TBWBH PROPS  
AND MEASURES

WHEREAS, experienced consultants are needed to assist in preparation for the possible placement of an infrastructure-focused revenue measure or measures on the November 2022 ballot, including a robust community engagement process, evaluating program delivery capabilities, and developing an infrastructure program plan; and

WHEREAS, the City does not possess the in-house resources or expertise to execute on this project; and

WHEREAS, a request for proposals was duly issued and TBWBH Props and Measures and V.W. Housen & Associates were selected as the best value for the City; and

WHEREAS, TBWBH Props and Measures was selected for communications, surveying, and community engagement process; and

WHEREAS, funding from the General Fund (Fund 011) was approved by the City Council in the FY22 budget; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley ratifies the action taken by the City Manager during recess to execute contracts with TBWBH for one year in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, for the implementation of the Vision 2050 plan. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: VISION 2050 IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES WITH V.W. HOUSEN &  
ASSOCIATES

WHEREAS, experienced consultants are needed to assist in preparation for the possible placement of an infrastructure-focused revenue measure or measures on the November 2022 ballot, including a robust community engagement process, evaluating program delivery capabilities, and developing an infrastructure program plan; and

WHEREAS, the City does not possess the in-house resources or expertise to execute on this project; and

WHEREAS, a request for proposals was duly issued and TBWBH Props and Measures and V.W. Housen & Associates were selected as the best value for the City; and

WHEREAS, V.W. Housen & Associates was selected for assessment of the City's capital delivery program and creation of the program plan; and

WHEREAS, funding from the General Fund (Fund 011) was approved by the City Council in the FY22 budget; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley ratifies the action taken by the City Manager during recess to execute contracts with V.W. Housen & Associates for one year in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, for the implementation of the Vision 2050 plan. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.