



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
January 25, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Liam Garland, Director, Public Works

Subject: Contract No. 32000093 Amendment: DC Electric Group, Inc. for On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32000093 with DC Electric Group, Inc. to increase the current contract by \$250,000 for a total not to exceed amount of \$500,000 and to remove the \$50,000 annual limit.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding for the current contract is available from the State Transportation Tax Fund (account code 127-54-622-668-0000-000-431-612990), with an annual recurring allocation of \$50,000 over 5 years, for a total of \$250,000.

Funding for the additional \$250,000 will be identified and expended only for the actual services that are required. Therefore, funding will be subject to appropriation in the specific fiscal year that the services are needed.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

DC Electric Group, Inc. was retained under contract 32000093 to maintain existing electronic traffic calming devices and to install new devices at the direction of the City. The existing contract has a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000 and limits contract expenditures to \$50,000 per year, regardless of the funding source used. This annual cap has reduced flexibility and efficiency, as maintenance needs and traffic calming device installation can fluctuate year-by-year and may exceed \$50,000 in some years.

Since the original contract was executed there has been an increased need for installation of new traffic calming devices and signal modifications within the City. Additionally, the Traffic Calming Program was put on hold in 2020 as resources were diverted to the Healthy Streets network, and traffic data for the program could not accurately be collected due to significantly reduced traffic. There is now a backlog of traffic calming requests from 2019, 2020, and 2021 to be processed, and a higher demand for the installation of electronic traffic calming devices over the next couple of years is expected.

The proposed increase of \$250,000 and removal of the \$50,000 annual cap will accelerate project delivery and allow City staff to meet the increasing demand for electronic traffic calming devices.

On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley has been at the forefront of traffic calming among other cities in the nation, and has taken the initiative to install and experiment with new technologies (including electronic traffic calming devices) to further improve the quality of life and enhance safety for residents and visitors. As a result, the City is responsible for ensuring maintenance of electronic traffic calming devices, including rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), pedestrian crossing flashing beacons, and speed feedback signs, and must ensure their operation for pedestrian, bicyclist, and driver safety.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on June 26, 2019, and four contractors responded to the RFP on July 18, 2019, meeting all requirements of the proposal for On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance. Resolution No. 69,086-N.S. authorized the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with DC Electric Group, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to repair, replace, maintain, and install electronic traffic calming devices for the period of October 16, 2019 to June 30, 2024 with an option for up to three one-year extensions. Contract no. 32000093 was executed on November 4, 2019 for DC Electric Group, Inc. to maintain existing traffic calming devices and to install new devices as authorized by the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

This contract amendment is consistent with the City's efforts to improve efficiency of movement of people and vehicles throughout the City's roadway network. Traffic calming devices are expected to make the City of Berkeley a more pedestrian, bicycle, and transit friendly community thus working to reduce greenhouse gases and pollutants that impact air quality.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This contract amendment will accelerate project delivery and will allow City staff to meet the increasing demand for electronic traffic calming devices while continuing to maintain the growing electronic traffic calming devices inventory. The City does not have adequate staff, experience, or equipment to keep up with the growing demand for traffic calming devices and signal modifications.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Do not amend the contract and delay installation of new electronic traffic calming devices until a time when enough traffic calming projects can be funded and grouped together to be bid competitively.

CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Deputy Director of Public Works, Transportation, (510) 981-7061

Jesse Peoples, Associate Transportation Engineer, Public Works, (510) 981-6416

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT NO. 32000093 AMENDMENT: DC ELECTRIC GROUP, INC. FOR ON-CALL ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES MAINTENANCE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City must periodically maintain existing electronic traffic calming devices to ensure that they are in a good operating condition and install new devices for pedestrian, bicyclist, and motorist safety; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have internal recourses or technical expertise to provide the required repair, replacement, maintenance, and installation in a timely or cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, an invitation for a Request for Proposal (RFP) was advertised on June 26, 2019, and based on the selection criteria established in the RFP the highest scoring and selected contractor was DC Electric Group, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 69,086-N.S. authorized the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with DC Electric Group, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to repair, replace, maintain, and install electronic traffic calming devices for the period of October 16, 2019 to June 30, 2024 with an option for up to three one-year extensions; and

WHEREAS, DC Electric Group, Inc. was retained under contract no. 32000093 for On-Call Electronic Traffic Calming Devices Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, due to the increased need for new electronic traffic calming devices and signal modifications, removal of the \$50,000 annual limit and an additional \$250,000 in contract capacity is necessary to construct improvements in an efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, funding for the additional \$250,000 will be identified and expended only for the actual services that are required. Therefore, funding will be subject to appropriation in the specific fiscal year that the services are needed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32000093 with DC Electric Group, Inc. to increase the current contract by \$250,000 for a total not to exceed amount of \$500,000 and to remove the \$50,000 annual limit.