



Berkeley Housing Authority

1901 Fairview St., Berkeley, CA 94703
Telephone: (510) 981 5470 Fax: (510) 981 5480

Office of the Executive Director

Item 6B

ACTION CALENDAR

June 28, 2011

To: Honorable Chairperson and
Members of the Berkeley Housing Authority Board

From: Tia M. Ingram, Executive Director *Tia M. Ingram*

Subject: Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to exercise the option to extend the contract with the law offices of Goldfarb & Lipman, LLP through June 30, 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to exercise the option to extend the contract with the law offices of Goldfarb & Lipman, LLP through June 30, 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

BACKGROUND AND CURRENT SITUATION

Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) use a variety of models to ensure adequate legal representation. Some contract with City Attorneys' Offices, some with County Counsel, some use private firms, and some use a combination of government attorneys and private firms.

When BHA conducted solicitation for legal services, we sought a multi-year contract, with three, one-year renewal options; there is a modest rate adjustment for each renewal option. In recognition of the financial challenges faced by BHA, the firm has consented to continue services at the existing rate.

The renewal option is also an opportunity for us to recognize the superior service that has met or exceeded our expectations in terms of the responsiveness, stellar legal advice, and partnership in resolving sensitive and/or complex situations.

Jennifer Bell, in particular, has been very helpful with the BHA large family housing disposition project, forging connections of BHA staff with individuals in other public housing authorities, and discussions with the City of Berkeley regarding various services where there are overlapping responsibilities (i.e. the conflict of interest code).

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

\$150,000 for the first option year bringing the total contract cost to a maximum of \$450,000. Contract authorizes expenditure up to \$150,000 for Fiscal Year 2011-12; expenses are only incurred as work is assigned.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Tia Ingram, Executive Director, 981-5471

Attachment: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 11-__

ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXERCISE THE OPTION TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH THE LAW OFFICES OF GOLDFARB & LIPMAN, LLP THROUGH JUNE 30, 2012 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Housing Authority needs expert general counsel; and

WHEREAS, the law office of Goldfarb & Lipman LLP has served BHA competently for the past four years; and

WHEREAS, the firm has demonstrated expert knowledge and experience in serving as general counsel for California-based Public Housing Authorities, and superior responsiveness on all issues; and

WHEREAS, the existing contract contains three, one-year renewal options, and this is the first such one year renewal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute the first one-year renewal option with the Law Offices of Goldfarb & Lipman LLP.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract authority for the one-year renewal period is \$150,000, unchanged from the prior two years.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of the Berkeley Housing Authority on June 28, 2011 by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Attest: _____
Tia M. Ingram, Secretary