

# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Agenda Item:

## City Manager's Office

### GENERAL INFORMATION—

Agenda Date: 01/12/04  
04-008

Communication No.:

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call No:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer

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### SUBJECT—

Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Earth Tech Inc., Alan Krusi, CEO, 100 W. Broadway, Suite 5000, Long Beach, CA, for engineering services in conjunction with the McKinley Avenue Corridor Study, widening from Fleur Drive to E. Indianola Avenue. Compensation is not to exceed \$160,600 to Earth Tech Inc., plus \$51,400 for subconsultant services, total not to exceed \$212,000.

### SYNOPSIS—

Approving and authorizing the execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Earth Tech Inc., for engineering services on the McKinley Avenue Corridor Study, widening from Fleur Drive to E. Indianola Avenue, compensation not to exceed \$160,600 to Earth Tech Inc., plus \$51,400 for subconsultant services, total not to exceed \$212,000. Subconsultants include ETG Incorporated (mapping), Tallgrass Historians (historical & archaeological) and Boddy Media (public involvement).

### FISCAL IMPACT—

Funding for these services in an amount not to exceed \$212,000 is included in the 2003-2004 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget, Index Code 486449, McKinley Avenue Widening - Account 521020, Fund CP038, Organization ENG990000, Project STR212.

### RECOMMENDATION—

Approval.

### BACKGROUND—

The agreement provides for a corridor study of McKinley Avenue widening from Fleur Drive to E. Indianola Avenue. The proposed widening would create a three-lane roadway with one lane in each direction and a center turning lane. The roadway would be reconstructed to urban street standards including curbs, sidewalk and any necessary storm sewer.

The corridor study will evaluate traffic flow on McKinley Avenue as well as the major north/south arterials and collectors (Fleur Drive, S.W. 14th Street, S.W. 9th Street, South Union Street, S.E. 5th Street and S.E. 14th Street). Since McKinley Avenue has limited storm sewer, a major effort will be to identify storm sewer outlets and alignments. In addition, an environmental assessment would be completed. The study will prioritize the improvements needed within the corridor through meetings with stakeholders in the area. The study will provide estimates of the construction costs and scheduling of individual projects that could be accomplished as funding becomes available. Following completion of the corridor study, which will determine grades, alignments, geometry and other parameters, it is anticipated that a detailed design will be initiated for the highest priority section.

By Roll Call 03-1382, dated August 11, 2003, the City Council authorized the corridor preliminary design and appropriate sections of final design of McKinley Avenue Widening. On September 15, 2003, the Engineering Department mailed Request For Proposals (RFP) to six engineering firms asking for proposals to perform a Transportation Corridor Study for McKinley Avenue from the Des Moines International Airport to E. Indianola Avenue. On October 13, 2003, proposals were received from Earth Tech, URS Corporation, Snyder & Associates, Inc., and Stanley Consultants, Inc.

A consultant selection committee composed of City staff from the Engineering Department's design and traffic divisions and neighborhood representatives from the South Park and Magnolia Park Neighborhood Associations reviewed those proposals. The proposals were rated on experience with similar projects, qualifications of key personnel, resources available to complete the project, project overview, references, quality of the proposal, and location of the firm. Based on the proposals, the selection committee selected two firms, Earth Tech and Snyder & Associates, for further interviews. After interviewing both firms, the selection committee recommends that Earth Tech be selected. A major factor in recommending the selection of Earth Tech was their extensive public and community involvement proposal. If approved, the first steering committee meeting will be January 29, 2004. The corridor study will be completed in the fall of 2004.