Agenda Item #:\_\_



Staff Report City of Manhattan Beach

TO:	Honorable Mayor Aldinger and Members of the City Council
THROUGH	Geoff Dolan, City Manager
FROM:	Jim Arndt, Director of Public Works Dana Greenwood, City Engineer Edward T. Kao, Senior Civil Engineer
DATE:	December 4, 2007
SUBJECT:	Accept Project Update for the Sepulveda Bridge Widening Project and Approve a Professional Services Contract with Dardanelle Group, Inc. for an amount not- to-exceed \$48,000

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council accept the project update and pass a motion to approve a contract with Dardanelle Group, Inc. for an amount not-to-exceed \$48,000 to provide project management and oversight services.

# **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

The total estimated project cost for this project is ten million dollars. City staff had worked with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund account to accumulate the City's annual allocation of Proposition C Local Return funds (currently averaging \$500,000 annually) starting July, 2007. Staff also rolled over \$253,273 from previous years' Proposition C Local Return funds into this Capital Reserve account. These funds will be used to fund the proposed contract with Dardanelle Group, Inc. and as the local match for future MTA grant applications.

In June of 2007, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments transferred to the City \$500,000 from a SAFETEA-LU earmark it received to help the City jump-start the environmental/design phase of the project. A portion of the aforementioned Proposition C funds will also be used as the local match for these grant funds. However, a number of documents need to be completed and approved by Caltrans before the City can start to spend these federal funds.

# **DISCUSSION:**

# Background

Northbound Sepulveda at a point south of the bridge is currently four lanes. The fourth lane becomes a right turn only lane as it approaches the 33<sup>rd</sup> Street entrance to the Manhattan Village

Mall. North of 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Sepulveda Boulevard narrows down to three lanes as it passes over the bridge. Once over the bridge, the street widens back to four lanes as Sepulveda approaches the Rosecrans intersection.

The proposed project would widen the existing bridge on the east side only. It would create a fourth through lane from 33<sup>rd</sup> Street to a point north of the bridge. Caltrans has recently updated the project cost estimate. The estimated cost at this point is \$10 million. This cost includes design, construction costs and an estimated \$1.1 million for right-of-way engineering and right-of-way acquisition. These right-of-way costs could be substantially reduced if the adjacent property owners on the east side of Sepulveda dedicate the necessary right-of-way at no cost to the City.

# **Project Update**

This project just missed the cut-off for receiving funding in the last MTA Call For Projects. City staff is working with adjacent property owners to resolve right-of-way issues. As noted above, the City has subsequently received Federal funds to commence design work. Moving forward at this time with Environmental Studies and finalizing the engineering design should improve the project's readiness and hence its score in the next Call For Projects (tentatively scheduled for 2009). Approving the proposed contract with Dardanelle Group, Inc. will expedite completion of the upcoming activities.

# **Contract Services**

Dardanelle Group, Inc. has submitted a proposal to provide the following services:

- 1. Coordinating and managing all activities required by Caltrans to complete the project environmental documentation.
- 2. Right-of-way and site assessment reports.
- 3. Consultant selection for preliminary engineering and engineering design.
- 4. Managing all funding requirements with Caltrans and the MTA.

This proposal includes working with the Caltrans project oversight manager to ensure compliance with all State and Federal requirements for the use of Federal funds and Federal funding reimbursement requirements, coordinating all environmental and right-of-way requirements including any utility issues, engineering consultant design development, reviews and submittals among all Caltrans agencies involved, and identifying additional funding opportunities for project construction. Dardanelle Group, Inc. has considerable experience coordinating Federally-funded projects (Sepulveda/Rosecrans Intersection, Aviation/Rosecrans Intersection, Rosecrans Avenue Improvements, etc.). Dardanelle Group, Inc. will utilize these institutional relationships that were developed while acting as Project Manager for the completed Sepulveda/Rosecrans Intersection Project with Caltrans District 7 personnel, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (right-of-way activities), the MTA, local agencies such as utilities and pipeline companies, and private developers. Staff is therefore recommending approval of a professional services contract with Dardanelle Group because of their experience,

capabilities, and expertise. The contract will be structured based on an hourly rate with a not-to-exceed fee of \$48,000.

Attachment: GIS Map

 xc: Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development Bruce Moe, Director of Finance Robert V. Wadden, Jr., City Attorney Henry Mitzner, Controller

