

AGENDA



Thursday, January 10, 2008

**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 46

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of amendments to the existing professional services agreement with HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC, Austin, TX, for additional hydrologic and hydraulic engineering studies and associated mapping in an amount not to exceed \$198,375 for a maximum contract amount not to exceed \$994,295.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: George E. Oswald, P.E., D.WRE 974-3369; Gary M. Kosut, P.E., 974-3374; Fang Yu, PhD, P.E., 974-974-3580.

MBE/WBE: This contract was awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 14.28% MBE and 16.35% WBE subconsultant participation to date.

Prior Council Action: 11/30/2006 - Authorization to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with Halff Associates, Inc., for engineering services for the Gilleland Creek Modeling and Mapping Project.

Additional Engineering Services

Additional engineering services are needed to perform hydrologic and hydraulic studies of 5.6 stream miles in the Gilleland Creek watershed and 3.9 stream miles in the Decker Creek watershed. The additional streams are tributaries and upstream portions of the Gilleland and Decker watersheds not included in the original study scope of services. The additional work also includes additional floodplain mapping and additional efforts required to prepare and submit technical documents required for FEMA review and acceptance of the new floodplain delineations. The additional work will improve the accuracy and usefulness of the floodplain model and maps.

The Project

The purpose of the on-going project is to develop digital geo-referenced hydrologic and hydraulic models and floodplain maps for the Gilleland Creek Watershed including the Elm and Decker Creek watersheds for both existing and future land-use conditions. The watershed is bordered roughly by the Colorado River on the south, IH-35 on the north, Walnut Creek on the west, and Wilbarger Creek on the east. The creek discharges into the Colorado River near Taylor Lane. As development activity increases in this area due to SH 130, the need for updated models and maps has become critical. The hydrologic and hydraulic engineering studies and mapping is being performed in accordance with the following criteria: (1) Federal Emergency Management Agency floodplain modeling and mapping specifications and guidelines, (2) the City of Austin Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM), (3) the Project Quality Assurance Plan guidelines developed by the City's Watershed Protection and Development Review Department, and (4) specific project requirements and technical guidelines included in the professional services agreement. The project began in May 2007. The field surveying work is substantially complete and hydrologic studies are nearing completion. Detailed hydraulic studies are underway. Studies to determine possible location of floodwater detention ponds and mapping work is to be done. The proposed additional work will require

about three additional months. The project, including the proposed additional work, will be completed by late September 2008. FEMA review and acceptance of the new maps will require an additional several months.

The requested approval will allow for the development of amendments to the existing professional services agreement with Half Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$198,375 for a maximum contract amount not to exceed \$994,295.00.