

CIP BUDGET EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:
CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):

11/8/12
Austin Transportation

SUBJECT: Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with FOUND DESIGN LLC, dba MERJE, to provide additional professional services for the Downtown Austin Wayfinding project in the amount of \$86,154 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$319,154.00.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Project Name:	Downtown Wayfinding
Project Authorization:	2012-2013 Capital Budget
Funding Source:	Parking Fund Transfer
Fund/Dept/Unit:	8400 2507 9025

Current Budget	700,000
Unencumbered Balance	700,000
This Action	<u>(86,154)</u>
Estimated Available	<u>613,846</u>

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: On September 22, 2011 Council authorized staff to negotiate and execute a contract with FOUND DESIGN LLC, dba MERJE for planning design services for the Austin Downtown Wayfinding System. The contract was executed on November 18, 2011 for phases I and II in the amount of \$176,597.00. This contract covered the following services: Phase 1 – Analysis of existing conditions and information gathering, stakeholder interviews and development of concept plan and public presentation. Phase 2 – Development of three schematic designs and refinement into one concept, field surveys, preliminary cost estimates and two public presentations.

Over the past year staff and the Consultant have met with multiple stakeholder groups including a Technical Advisory Group consisting of representatives from several city departments, CapMetro, TXDOT and Travis County. Three public meetings have been held to: 1. Define wayfinding systems; 2. Review existing conditions, analysis and concepts for three options; and, 3. Review the draft Wayfinding Master plan. The draft Master Plan will be presented to Council on November 8, 2012.

The original contract was executed utilizing available funds and allowed Phase 1 and 2 to be completed. In the past year an additional source of funds was identified as part of the Austin Transportation Department's capital budget. This will allow extension of the contract with the current Consultant to complete Phase 3 of the original scope. Phase 3 is Design development and construction documentation of final design, preparation of final budget, public presentation and finalization of the Downtown Austin Wayfinding Graphics Manual.

Found Design LLC is located in West Chester, PA.

