



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council

Item No. _____

FROM: City Administrator

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF COMMERCE AND EJMA PLANNING + DEVELOPMENT, TO CONDUCT PLANNING, LAND USE, ZONING AND SUPPLEMENTAL STAFFING SUPPORT SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY'S COMMERCIAL CANNABIS PERMIT PROGRAM

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution approving an Extension to the Agreement for Consultant Services between the City of Commerce and ejma Planning + Development, for an additional six-months to continue to cover City services in: planning, community outreach, land use, zoning support services, and to provide staff with further direction on commercial cannabis as they relate to supplemental staffing for the City's Commercial Cannabis Permit program under Ordinance No. 700 and related policies concerning the subject matter.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS: A separate Extension Agreement for Consultant Services between the City of Commerce and ejma Planning + Development is being proposed due to ejma Planning + Development being subject matter leading experts on complex and highly regulated land uses. The team at ejma Planning + Development is a commercial cannabis planning, land use, zoning and support services company policies. They have been working closely with City with all matters related to State of California and City of Commerce laws concerning commercial cannabis.

On September 4, 2018 the City Council approved agenda item No. 5, Ordinance Repealing Chapter 5.61 "Medical Marijuana" of Title 5 (Business Regulations and Licensing) of the Commerce Municipal Code in its Entirety, and Replacing it with Chapter 5.61 "Commercial Cannabis Activities", of Title 5 (Business Regulations and Licensing) – after having conducted a series of community outreach meetings, gathered resident input through surveys and referencing previous data. It was determined that commercial cannabis expertise in the areas of: planning, land use, zoning and related support services would be required moving forward to continue to comply with state policies and the new municipal ordinance.

On December 16, 2017, City Council passed and adopted Ordinance No. 693, a citywide moratorium banning commercial cannabis uses and activities, in order to allow the City time to study, amongst other things: the impacts associated with the moratorium; consistency of such uses with the City's General Plan and Zoning Code; California cannabis laws and regulations, and the impacts of same in the City; and the options the City has to regulate commercial cannabis uses and activities within its jurisdiction.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the attached Amendment and Extension for Agreement for Consultant Services between the City of Commerce and ejma Planning + Development, for planning services, as they generally relate to assessing the impacts of new land uses and implementing related development standards. The proposed limit for the cost for these services is \$210,124.08. The cost associated with these services will include, but are not limited to, supporting the City with land use ordinance development, community outreach and development, planning, zoning and other land use program implementation tasks as needed.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve staff's recommendation
2. Reject staff's recommendation
3. Provide staff with further direction

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact to the City general fund. If the City Council approves the agreement with ejma Planning + Development, an appropriation of up to \$210,124.08 will be made from the fees received from commercial cannabis permit program.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

The subject matter is consistent with Economic Growth Guiding Principle #4 of the City's Strategic Plan. This Guiding Principle calls for a focus on strategic economic development pursuits that will increase local jobs, generate additional revenue and create demand for supporting businesses.

Reviewed by: Vilko Domic, Director of Finance
Approved as to form: Norma Copado, City Attorney
Respectfully submitted: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Administrator

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Agreement for Consultant Services – ejma Planning + Development