



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council

Item No. _____

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Commerce Approving an Amendment to the Agreement for Consultant Services between the City of Commerce and John R. Anderson DBA; Blue/Green Advisors, to Continue the Peer Review of an Environment Impact Report ("EIR") Associated with a Proposed Development in the City of Commerce

MEETING DATE: October 6, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution approving an Amendment to the Agreement for Consultant Services between the City of Commerce and John R. Anderson dba: Blue/Green Advisors and authorizing the Mayor to execute said Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

On August 19, 2019, the City released a Notice of Preparation ("NOP") of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for a project at 7316 Gage Avenue and 6364 Zindell Avenue, in the City of Commerce ("Modelo Project" or "Project").

The Project proposes the construction of a mixed-use development including park and open space, residential, commercial uses, and related amenities, including the reconstruction of Veterans Memorial Park and an adjacent vacant parcel into a mixed-use development. The development also includes public community uses as well as up to 825 residential units, and approximately 165,000 square feet of entertainment retail uses. Additionally, due to the previous use of the Modelo Project site as a landfill, the Project involves remediation to allow for safe implementation of the Project. The Project proposes to revitalize Veterans Memorial Park with new structures, a playground, a soccer and baseball youth sports complex, a library, a grass-stepped amphitheater, and additional outdoor green space.

During the January 21, 2020 City Council meeting, staff requested that the City enter into an agreement with John R. Anderson dba: Blue/Green Advisors in order to conduct a Peer review of a draft EIR for a proposed development at 7316 Gage Avenue, which includes the City-owned parcel containing Veterans Park, and also known as the Modelo Project. In its decision, staff felt John R. Anderson dba: Blue/Green Advisors was best suited to

provide a high-level review of this type of CEQA document. Per the proposal, Mr. Anderson was to conduct a critical analysis of all chapters and technical reports associated with the EIR at a fixed cost of \$15,000. Since then, and as a result of the complexity of the review, the \$15,000 was exhausted. As a result, staff would like to ask for this one-time extension to add an additional \$7,500 to cover the cost of the consultant to review the final EIR on behalf of the City, prior to release to the Planning Commission and City Council.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

As with the original approval, the cost to be incurred by the City for Mr. Anderson's review will be covered by the applicant.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

The proposed action supports the *Economic Growth* Strategic Focus Area under the following Guiding Principle:

Guiding Principle 4: Focus on strategic economic development pursuits that will increase local jobs, generate additional revenue and create demand for supporting businesses.

Prepared by: Jose D. Jimenez, Director of Economic Development and Planning

Reviewed by: Vilko Domic, Assistant City Manager

Approved as to form: Norma Copado, Assistant City Attorney

Respectfully submitted: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Agreement