ITEM NO. 21

STAFF REPORT

CITY OF OCEANSIDE

DATE: July 18, 2007

TO: Chairman and Members of the Community Development Commission

FROM: Public Works Department

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE ORDER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $60,000 TO NORTH COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT FOR FENCING FOR THE OCEANSIDE BOULEVARD GATEWAY PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE ORDER**

SYNOPSIS

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a purchase order in an amount not to exceed $60,000 to North County Transit District (NCTD) for fencing for the Oceanside Boulevard Gateway project, and authorize the Financial Services Director, or designee, to execute the purchase order.

BACKGROUND

NCTD is finishing its Sprinter track improvements for the start of passenger service in December 2007. As a part of this work, NCTD is installing a six-foot-high chain-link fence on either side of the tracks to keep pedestrians separated from moving trains. However, the standard fence material NCTD uses, galvanized chain-link mesh, will not be visually compatible with the City's gateway landscaping improvements that are planned along the south side of Oceanside Boulevard between I-5 and Crouch Street. The Oceanside Boulevard Gateway plan includes a meandering sidewalk, densely-planted shrubs and groundcover to provide year-round floral color, and a six-foot-high black vinyl chain-link fence.

NCTD has agreed to substitute black vinyl fence material for plain galvanized fence material if the City reimburses NCTD for the difference in cost.

ANALYSIS

Substituting black vinyl-coated fencing for galvanized fencing along the length of the future gateway landscaping and sidewalk improvements will cost an amount not exceeding $60,000, which NCTD will cover by executing a construction change order with its contractor for the Sprinter mainline improvements. By approving this purchase order, the City Council authorizes reimbursement of NCTD's direct cost of installing upgraded fence material and relocating some previously-installed fence posts closer to

the Sprinter tracks. This will clear additional width for sidewalk and landscaping along Oceanside Boulevard. The purchase order provides for a total of 2800 feet of six-foot fence and 600 feet of 4-foot fence at street intersections.

The subcontractor price for the vinyl-coated fence is approximately $16 per running foot, which is a competitive price for heavy (nine-gauge) mesh fencing installed under prevailing wage rules. The final estimated price of $56,726 includes general contractor coordination and relocating some fence posts. A purchase order authorization in the amount of $60,000 is requested to cover field installation contingencies.

Staff also investigated installation of wrought iron fencing as an alternative. For example, the same fencing contractor working on Oceanside Boulevard recently installed wrought iron fencing along the inland rail trail corridor in the City of San Marcos, which is a project not funded in Oceanside. That fence costs $70 per running foot. Installing the same wrought iron product on Oceanside Boulevard would cost $238,000 for the fence alone, and approximately $250,000 with general contractor coordination and field installation contingencies.

Detailed design work for the Oceanside Boulevard Gateway landscaping is underway and the project will be constructed in the first quarter of calendar year 2008.

FISCAL IMPACT

Currently, $1,200,000 is appropriated in the Oceanside Boulevard Gateway CIP project account 581-417821. The recommended fence purchase will not exceed $60,000. Sufficient funds are available.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The City's standard insurance requirements will be met.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) recommended the Oceanside Boulevard corridor as a high priority for gateway landscaping enhancements on May 3, 1999, and again on April 12, 2000. The EDC Ad Hoc Committee on Image and Gateway Enhancement has reviewed the Oceanside Boulevard gateway plans dated January 2006, including the landscaping plant selection and the choice of black vinyl-coated chain-link fencing.

On July 11, 2007, staff presented the fence purchase and the Oceanside Boulevard Gateway project to the Oceanside Boulevard Task Force.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The City Attorney has reviewed the proposed purchase order award process as consistent with City policy and public contracting requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a purchase order in an amount not to exceed $60,000 to North County Transit District (NCTD) for fencing for the Oceanside Boulevard Gateway project, and authorize the Financial Services Director, or designee, to execute the purchase order.

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