



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

16

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

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CONSENT

May 19, 2009

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Supplemental Agreement: State Transportation Advocacy Services

Location/Council District: All Districts

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) approving Supplemental Agreement No. 4 to City Agreement 2007-0805 with Gonzalez Public Affairs for an amount not to exceed \$60,000; and 2) authorizing the City Manager to execute the Supplemental Agreement.

Contact: Azadeh Doherty, Principal Planner, 808-3137

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Planning and Policy

Organization No: 15001041

Description/Analysis:

Issue: Supplemental Agreement Number 4 in the amount of \$60,000 with Gonzalez Public Affairs is necessary to continue state transportation legislative advocacy consulting services.

Policy Considerations: This agreement will allow Gonzalez Public Affairs to continue to provide the City of Sacramento the opportunity to seek state transportation funds which can also be leveraged to receive federal transportation funds. With support of a State transportation lobbyist, the City will be able to explore areas beyond traditional transportation funds for its priority projects. Approval of this agreement is also consistent with the City of Sacramento's Strategic Plan to improve and diversify the transportation system and enhance and preserve neighborhoods.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This activity is not considered a project as defined by Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The activity involves no physical construction and, therefore, has no potential to cause a significant impact on the environment (CEQA Section 15061 (b)(3)).

Sustainability Considerations: None.

Other: None.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: The Department of Transportation needs to continue its focus on transportation legislative issues at the State Capitol that can impact the City's Transportation system and its funding opportunities. Since August of 2007, Gonzalez Public Affairs has provided excellent lobbying services to the City of Sacramento and extension of this contract for an additional year will allow Gonzalez Public Affairs to continue to represent the City's interests in the ongoing state transportation funding discussions (for last year's accomplishments see Attachment 1-Background, page 5). Mr. Gonzalez has a successful track record in providing transportation related legislative advocacy and consulting services for the Department of Transportation and has a remarkable reputation with key members of the State Legislature and State Officials.

Financial Considerations: The agreement is for \$5,000 per month or \$60,000 for a one-year contract and will be funded by the Department of Transportation. Sufficient funds are available in the department's operating budget (Fund 1001). Last year, Gonzalez Public Affairs was instrumental in securing \$20 million for the City's track relocation project and \$17.9 million in infrastructure funding.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Gonzalez Public Affairs is a Small Business and therefore, this contract will meet the City's ESBD requirement of 20% participation.

Respectfully Submitted by: Francesca Lee Halbakken
Francesca Lee Halbakken
Operations Manager

Approved by: Jerry Way
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:

Ray Kerridge
RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

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Attachment 1**Background**

In August of 2007, the Department of Transportation executed an agreement with Gonzalez Public Affairs for State transportation advocacy services. The term of the original agreement was for 11 months (from August 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) and it was subsequently extended for another year (July 2008 through June 2009). With approval of Supplemental Agreement No. 4, the total amount paid and to be paid to Gonzales Public Affairs will be \$175,000. Over the past two years Gonzalez Public Affairs provided satisfactory lobbying services to the City of Sacramento. The proposed extension of this contract for an additional year will allow Gonzalez Public Affairs to continue to represent the City's interests in the ongoing state transportation funding discussions as well as to assist the to secure funding for the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility.

The legislative activities under this agreement will be coordinated with the City's Legislative Affairs Office and the City's lead State lobbyist, Emanuels Jones and Associates. This will assure consistency in representing the City's priorities as well as maximizing our advocacy efforts.

Scope of Work - Mr. Gonzalez's work includes the following:

- ◆ **Notify City of anticipated, newly introduced or amended state legislation and proposed regulations which could impact City.**
 - Provide bill number and brief summary of introduced or amended state legislation.
 - Provide information relative to legislative hearings.
 - Advise City of legislation and regulations which could impact the City's transportation system.
- ◆ **Advocate City's transportation legislative program and positions on legislation, proposed regulations, and funding priorities.**
 - Schedule meetings with legislators and state departments for City representatives to advocate transportation legislative and funding priorities.
 - Analyze and prepare advice on the proposed state budget as it relates to identifying decreases/increases in existing programs, new funding sources and strategies for City.
 - Determine available state programs that provide grants or funds for City's transportation programs. This includes providing assistance in structuring, preparing and presenting grant applications to state agencies and monitoring, assisting in expediting the application process.

List of Accomplishments in FY 2008-2009

- Secured \$20 million for track relocation project and \$17.9 million in infrastructure funding.
- Researched funding opportunities for Railyards projects including Prop 1B goods movement and homeland security funds and Prop 1C housing infrastructure funds.
- Ensured Prop 1B guidelines legislation (Senate Bill 88) allowed for funding to be used for the Railyards purpose.
- Participated in the development of the CTC's guidelines for Prop 1B allocations.
- Arranged for City to brief Senator Steinberg and Assemblyman Jones on the progress of the Railyards development.
- Consulted on needed data for effective lobbying of track relocation project and worked with local agencies, Union Pacific, and Capitol Corridor to generated necessary data.
- Assisted in drafting Prop 1B application for the track relocation project.
- Upon application submittal, lobbied Sacramento delegation, CTC staff, BT&H staff, and the Governor's office. Coordinated advocacy with Thomas lobbying team.
- Secured Steinberg and Jones support letters, testimony at CTC meeting in Oakland, and direct communications with CTC commissioners and staff.
- Arranged grassroots support for project including supporting testimony by the Clean Air Partnership emphasizing the track relocation's environmental benefits.
- Secured CTC staff recommendation for \$20 million for the track relocation project.
- Initiated advocacy efforts on grade separation funding proposal.
- Monitored CTC and amendments to their TCIF environmental review guidelines and ensured no changes were made that would infringe in track relocation project.
- Secured support for Prop 1B grade separation application and had letters delivered to the CTC.
- Researched additional funding opportunities for tunnel project including historic preservation designation and associated funding.
- Monitored state budget crisis and the possible implications on City's secured bond funding. Kept City staff informed of budget developments.
- Met with Governor's office to explore their interest in accelerating construction of all Prop 1B projects.
- Met with Governor's office and Senator Steinberg to discuss possible CEQA exemptions for the track relocation project.

- Advised City staff and strategy for dealing with CEQA exemption request and what information should and should not be provided by the City.
- Monitored CEQA exemption debate within the budget negotiations and assisted the City to navigate the political implications of the exemption and the Steinberg relationship.
- Worked with state budget staff to determine implications and alternatives if the state halts all bond-funded projects.
- Reviewed and have monitored state action on federal stimulus funding and its availability for local transportation projects.
- Assisted City with legislative research regarding Hwy 160 relinquishment and transit oriented development legislation.

Attachment 2

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT: STATE TRANSPORTATION ADVOCACY SERVICES

BACKGROUND

- A. Last year Gonzalez Public Affairs provided lobbying services to the City of Sacramento and its services have been satisfactory.
- B. The Supplemental Agreement Number 4 to this contract will allow Gonzalez Public Affairs to continue to represent the City's interests for transportation funding at the state level.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. Supplemental Agreement Number 4 to City Agreement No.2007-0805 with Gonzalez Public Affairs for State Transportation Advocacy services for an amount not to exceed \$60,000 is approved.
- Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to execute Supplemental Agreement Number 4 to City Agreement No.2007-0805 with Gonzalez Public Affairs for State Transportation Advocacy services for an amount not to exceed \$60,000.