REPORT TO COUNCIL
City of Sacramento

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STAFF
February 14, 2006

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Subject: Agreement: Approval of Lamberth Consulting for a Traffic Stop Data Analysis Project

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution: 1) Approving Lamberth Consulting to conduct the Police Department's Traffic Stop Data Analysis Project and 2) Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Lamberth Consulting for the Project in an amount not to exceed $126,780.00 annually.

Contact: James Maccoun, Lieutenant, 433-0850

Presenters: Rick Braziel, Deputy Chief, 433-0800

Department: Police

Division: Fiscal

Organization No: 2112

Summary:

On September 15, 2005, Lamberth Consulting was recommended for City Council approval by the Community Racial Profiling Commission to conduct a racial profiling study following an evaluation of six proposals received in response to a Request for Proposals issued by the Sacramento Police Department. Staff recommends adopting the attached resolution to enter into a one-year agreement with Lamberth Consulting for the implementation of research and analysis services to measure racial profiling within the Police Department. The City may opt to extend this contract annually for two years.

Committee/Commission Action: None.

Background Information:

In September 1999, then Governor Gray Davis vetoed Senate Bill 78, which would have required California law enforcement agencies to collect demographic information from traffic stops. He then requested that the cities of Los Angeles and Sacramento collect race and ethnicity data to help determine the extent of the practice of racial profiling in

California. Sacramento Police Department staff examined the feasibility of the project, and in February 2000, a Police Department proposal was unanimously approved by Sacramento City Council to implement a plan to collect and analyze demographic information related to traffic stops. Data collection began July 1, 2000. The data was analyzed by an independent research institution whose contract expired upon completion of the presentation of the third year report.

The Police Department recognized the importance of responding to the national concern as a practical issue and as a demonstration of its commitment to unbiased policing. The data collection effort continues to be endorsed by the Sacramento City Council and the Sacramento community, at large.

Three reports have been produced that examine the degree of intrusiveness of traffic stops and the extent of disproportionate stops. These reports (traffic stops from July 2000 to June 2001, July 2001 to June 2002, and July 2002 to June 2003) offer conclusions as to whether the stops were indicative of a pattern of racially biased policing.

In April 2004, the City Council established a 15-member Community Racial Profiling Commission to serve as an advisory body to the City Council regarding traffic stop data collection, analysis processes and interpretation. The first meeting of the Commission was held November 2004.

Under the direction of City Council Resolution 2003-079 to continue the data collection project as well as include study of pedestrian and cyclist stops, a Request for Proposal was released in August 2004 for a new data collection study. Six proposals were received for consideration.

It should be noted that a time lapse of 13 months occurred from release of the RFP to the Commission recommendation due to the need to ensure that the newly-established Commission was prepared to carry out its duties including carefully evaluating the six consultant proposals. Evaluation of the proposals began in April 2005. Two finalists presented their proposals and were interviewed by the Commission in August 2005. In September 2005, the Commission selected Lamberth Consulting for recommendation to the Council. Important stated factors in this selection included: extensive experience with the racial profiling data collection projects; logical methodology; sensitivity towards the community; and, flexibility towards working with the Commission and the Police Department. Although cost was not the deciding factor, the selected proposal was the second lowest bid.

It was decided the study period for analysis will be changed from a fiscal year (July to June) to a calendar year (January to December). The new study year will encompass data collected January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. Lamberth Consulting proposes to design and conduct traffic benchmark surveys, collect Police Department stop data, analyze all data, and develop and present a report. Lamberth Consulting will analyze stop data collected by the City compared to benchmark data collected during benchmarking. In addition, Lamberth Consulting will receive prior stop data from the

Police Department and compare the overall proportion of stops of racial/ethnic minorities for the period when a researcher was not under contract. Lamberth will work with the Police Department to develop a train-the-trainer course to enable the Department to continue training officers based on new understandings of racial profiling as it pertains to Sacramento. The consultant will work with the Police Department to review existing bicycle and pedestrian data, and provide recommendations for future data collection tools and procedures needed to conduct a full bicycle and pedestrian study. Lamberth Consulting has committed to work closely with the City Council, Commission and community in the planning, implementation and reporting of the study.

Financial Considerations:

Staff seeks City Council approval of this agreement pursuant to the City's procurement practices and policies. The City Manager's Office fiscal year 2005-06 budget has sufficient funds to support this agreement.

Environmental Considerations:

This proposal does not constitute a "project" and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to CEQA guidelines Section 15061 (b)(1) and 15378(b)(3).

Policy Considerations:

These recommendations are consistent with past City Council and community endorsements of traffic stop data collection and analysis as well as City Council Resolution No. 2000-081 stating that the Sacramento Police Department "develop and implement a project to collect and analyze demographic information related to vehicle stop that may include, but not be limited to: race, sex, age, and the disposition of a citation"; and City Council Resolution 2003-079 calling for the continuation of such studies.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):

Lamberth Consulting is an out-of-state business and is not certified as an emerging small business. However, Lamberth Consulting is being recommended for approval by staff and the Commission because out of six competitors for this contract, this company demonstrated a high level of subject matter expertise and willingness to work cooperatively on the project at the second lowest cost level.

Respectfully Submitted by: for
Rick Braziel
Deputy Chief of Police

Approved by: for
Albert Nájera
Chief of Police

Recommendation Approved:

for
RAY KERRIDGE
Interim City Manager

Ref: COP 1-24

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RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSULTANT AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH LAMBERTH CONSULTING FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A TRAFFIC STOP DATA ANALYSIS PROJECT

BACKGROUND

A. Following a 1999 request by then Governor Gray Davis that the cities of Los Angeles and Sacramento collect race and ethnicity data to help determine the extent of the practice of racial profiling in California, the Sacramento Police Department began collecting traffic stop data on July 1, 2000.

B. Under direction of the City Council, three reports have been produced that examine the degree of intrusiveness of traffic stops and the extent of disproportionate stops. These reports, relating to fiscal years between July 2000 and June 2003, offer conclusions as to whether the stops were indicative of patterns of racially biased policing.

C. City Council Resolution 2003-079 directed that the Police Department enter into a new consultant agreement in order to continue the data collection and analysis project which would also include study of pedestrian and cyclist stops.

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

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to execute a 1-year Agreement with an option to renew annually for up to three years for a total annual contract amount not to exceed $126,780.00 with Lamberth Consulting for the purpose of conducting a Traffic Stop Data Analysis Project.

Section 2. The City Manager's Office fiscal year 2005-06 budget has sufficient funds to support this agreement.