



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 15, 2011

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: FIRE SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011

FROM: OFFICE OF THE CEO

PRESENTATION BY: THOMAS R. HATCH, CEO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: THOMAS R. HATCH @ (714) 754-5328

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize staff to release the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Fire Services (Attachment 3) based upon the analysis provided by both the Fire Services Contracting Committee and the Fire Department.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Council Policy 100-6 provides guidelines for evaluating the potential contracting of on-going City services on a long-term or permanent basis. As set forth in the policy, a committee was formed and comprised of three segments: Project Responsibility, Department Representative and Employee Representative. The committee was tasked with the following:

- Hearing a presentation from department representatives and asking questions about the specific proposal under consideration;
- Working together to outline how to evaluate a comparable City effort to provide the same or similar service;
- Having the project facilitator draft an analysis addressing the available alternatives for service delivery as outlined by the committee; and,
- Determining if outside comparative data would be useful.

On September 30, 2011, the Fire Services Contracting Committee met to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the Fire program and determine "the available alternatives for service delivery." After hearing a presentation by department staff and asking questions, the Committee determined the following alternatives for the Fire program:

1. Retain existing service level at existing cost
2. Contract with Orange County Fire Authority
3. Contract with another public entity
4. Contract with a private entity

On October 13, 2011 and October 24, 2011, the Committee met to discuss, clarify and finalize the alternatives/options and the draft RFP. The following is an explanation of the attachments.

Attachment 1 - a memo from the Contracting Committee to the City CEO, provides identification and analysis of each alternative and survey information provided by other agencies.

Attachment 2 - a memo from the Interim Fire Chief Tom Arnold to the City CEO, provides a written evaluation (including pros and cons) of each option addressed by the Contracting Committee.

Attachment 3, the draft RFP for Fire Services, prepared by the Fire Department and reviewed and finalized by the Contracting Committee.

Based on the attached information it appears that the most viable alternatives are to retain the existing service level existing cost, contracting with Orange County Fire Authority, or potentially contracting with another public or private agency. It is difficult to determine which of these alternatives would provide the highest level of service at the lowest cost without issuing an RFP so that appropriate cost analysis and comparisons in level of service can be made.

A few items should be noted with regard to the draft RFP. While we have identified in the draft RFP the current level of expected service, we have done so on the assumption that the Council wishes to retain the existing level of service, whoever provides it. However, the draft also includes a specific request to proposers to identify "innovative and/or creative approaches for providing the service that will maximize efficient, cost-effective operations or increase performance capabilities." This would allow the Council to evaluate either a different level of service, method of delivery, or other alternative that could maintain or enhance service levels at a lower overall cost. The RFP also requests proposers to offer information about hiring existing city employees.

Also note, that employees or groups of employees, who wish to submit a proposal in response to the RFP, will be permitted to do so. Staff recommends that employees who wish to submit bids or responses to RFPs as contract providers, should be advised to do so in compliance with the RFP requirements and at the same time as other bidders.

As directed under Council Policy 100-6, the above is an analysis addressing the available alternatives for service delivery as outlined by the Fire Services Contracting Committee.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The City Council may decide not to release the RFP and direct the CEO to evaluate other alternatives identified by the Fire Services Contracting Committee.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The fiscal impact for outsourcing the identified City services is unknown at this time. If the City Council directs staff to release the RFP a complete analysis of the proposals and the costs for each will be provided to the City Council at that time.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends releasing the RFP for Fire Services based upon the analysis of both the Fire Services Contracting Committee and the Fire Department.

Thomas R. Hatch
Chief Executive Officer

Bobby Young
Finance and IT Director

Attachment:

Attachment 1
Attachment 2
Attachment 3

[Contract Committee Analysis Memo](#)
[Departmental Analysis](#)
[Draft Request for Proposal](#)