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REQUESTS FOR SERVICE
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April 29, 2009

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STATEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST FINDINGS

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION

LAX HOSPITALITY ZONE STREET AND SIDEWALK REHABILITATION – PHASE II ESPL-5006(569)

In compliance with Title 23 USC, Section 116, the City of Los Angeles hereby submits information demonstrating that the use of City Force Account resources for the LAX Hospitality Zone Street and Sidewalk Rehabilitation project under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) is in the best interest of the citizens of Los Angeles and the State of California.

Description of Work to be performed:
This project provides for resurfacing and sidewalk improvements in the Airport Hospitality Enhancement Zone (AHEZ) of the City of Los Angeles. The AHEZ was set up under a City Ordinance and aims to provide necessary infrastructure improvements for this area adjacent to the LA International Airport. The construction of sidewalk improvements will provide a safer walking environment to pedestrians and tourists. Construction work involved includes resurfacing of streets, concrete sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter, ADA-compliant access ramps, tree removals and tree root pruning as necessary. The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services (BSS) provided design of the project. The City will construct this project in compliance with the Caltrans' Local Assistance Procedures Manual for Force Account Work and meet applicable design standards for this agency: Geometric Design Standards for 3R Projects - Minimum Standards for Geometric Design of Federal-Aid Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation Projects on Local Streets and Road , Statewide Design Standards for Local Assistance Projects (Roadway Appurtenances, Pedestrian Facilities, and ADA Compliance), Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Green Book), and City of Los Angeles Standard Plans. It is understood that all documents relating to this project are subject to review by the FHWA and/or Caltrans.

All Force Account work performed hereunder will be fully documented, including time sheets, field reports, material testing and sampling (QAP), and material and equipment costs.

Meeting the Objectives of ARRA:
The City of Los Angeles is committed to achieving the objectives set forth by the Federal government in ARRA: infrastructure investment, local fiscal stabilization, job preservation and creation, and assistance to the unemployed.

This project will invest in our local infrastructure by rehabilitating the sidewalks and resurfacing streets in the vicinity of the LA International Airport in the City of Los Angeles. By construction of sidewalk improvements and resurfacing streets, this project will help in stabilizing the local economy through purchase of materials such as Portland Concrete Cement (PCC), detectable warning surfaces, Hot Mixed Asphalt Concrete, Recycled Asphalt Concrete, and other construction materials from local vendors in the western United States region.

One of the primary goals of ARRA is to preserve and create jobs. This project will not only retain existing experienced City staff, but will require an estimated seventeen (17) new staff, to be hired through either the hiring hall, the local Job Corps, or civil service process for completion of this project. The hiring of staff through any of these methods supports the April 3, 2009 directive issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget(OMB) entitled "Updating Implementing Guidance for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009", which states that "Departments and agencies should seek to maximize the economic benefits of a Recovery Act-funded investment in a particular community by supporting projects that seek to ensure that the people who live in the local community get the job opportunities that accompany the investment." In addition to the construction staff, there will be support staff needed for coordination work, construction inspection, engineering, and quality control.

As stated above, the current City Force Account crews are well trained and experienced in paving operations. The newly hired staff will be placed into existing crews to learn the City's operations and gain experience from the existing City Force Account staff. The City also provides in-house training courses as well as advanced education courses that will benefit those who are newly hired into the City.

Cost Effectiveness of Force Account

It is generally recognized that construction change orders are not cost effective. The use of City Force Account eliminates the potentially expensive change orders charged by a contractor for standby and necessary design modification due to unexpected changes of site conditions. City Force Account staff can and will also be mobilized immediately to minimize pedestrian and vehicular traffic disruption. Using Force Account also eliminates the need to advertise, bid, award and administer a construction contract, which translates into an estimated fifteen percent (15%) to thirty percent (30%) cost savings. In addition, the use of City Force Account reduces the overall project schedule and prevents project delays by potential contractor claims.

The City Force Account has experience on numerous pedestrian improvement projects. City Force Account has the staff, knowledge, experience, equipment, material, and necessary engineering support to execute construction of this project in the most cost effective manner.

Comparison of Cost Estimates

*Average Comparison Unit Cost Data are based upon Los Angeles County Department Public Works 2007-08 Unit Cost Data, Los Angeles City Bureau of Engineering 2007-08 Unit Cost Data, and compilation of other contract unit costs.

	UNIT COSTS						
Item No.	**Item Description**	**Unit**	**Quantity**	BSS 2007-08 Force Account Unit Price **Unit Price**	**Total Cost**	*Average Comparison Unit Cost Data (2007-08) **Unit Price**	**Remarks**
1	Cold mill AC pavement	SF	270,000	$0.50	$135,000.00	$0.50	
2	Type C Integral Concrete curb & gutter (a=2',b=6")	LF	36,000	$28.00	$1,008,000.00	$39.00	**BSS cost includes removals;**

							Comparison Unit Costs are sum of removal and construct of item
3	3" thick Concrete Sidewalk	SF	250,000	$12.00	$3,000,000.00	$12.00	**BSS cost includes removals; Comparison Unit Costs are sum of removal and construct of item**
4	6" thick Concrete Driveway	SF	50,000	$15.00	$750,000.00	$15.00	**BSS cost includes removals; Comparison Unit Costs are sum of removal and construct of item**
5	Crushed Miscellaneous Base (CMB)	LF	336,000	$2.00	$672,000.00	$2.25	
6	2"-3" thick AC overlay	SF	270,000	$1.99	$537,300.00	$2.23	
7	ADA compliant access ramps with detectable warning surfaces	EA	50	$3,300.00	$165,000.00	$3,300.00	
8	Tree trimming	EA	50	$500.00	$25,000.00	$700.00	
9	Adjust maintenance holes to grade	EA	20	$500.00	$10,000.00	$800.00	

	OTHER MISCELLANEOUS COSTS						
1	Mobilization	LS	1	$140,000.00	$140,000.00		
2	Clearing and grubbing	LS	1	$80,000.00	$80,000.00		
3	Traffic Control	LS	1	$120,000.00	$120,000.00		
4	Striping/Pavement markings	LS	1	$80,000.00	$80,000.00		
				SUBTOTAL:	**$ 6,722,300.00**		
				Contingency:	$277,700.00		
				TOTAL:	**$7,000,000.00**		

Advantages of Force Account Projects

In the past decade, the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Street Services has constructed hundreds of miles of sidewalk improvements through various City-funded sidewalk programs, as well as many State and Federally-funded grants for bulkheads, pedestrian improvements, bikepaths, and other transportation enhancements projects. Through years of repetitious work, BSS has become very experience and efficient on performing specific tasks. For example: (1) constructing new access ramps or modifying existing ramps in compliance with the American Disability Act (ADA) standards; (2) using forming machine for curb and gutter construction; and (3) constructing/repairing sidewalks in conjunction with building/modifying tree wells, and (4) established close coordination and working relation with other utility owners, such as: streetlights, traffic signals, power, water, gas, and others. The Force Account crews are experienced in many different types of projects, knowledgeable in standards and specifications, and familiar with the constituents in the various communities within the City of Los Angeles. As summarized below, these are some of the advantages of using Force Account:

- Experienced crews work efficiently to minimize construction time, and thereby minimizing complaints by communities/constituents
- Efficiency translates into cost-effectiveness
- Flexibility in scheduling of projects favored by communities/constituents to lessen community impact
- Cost savings from the advertise-bid-award process, contract change orders, and contractor claims can be used for the construction costs
- No delays due to contractor claims
- In-house engineers and landscape architects staff work closely with construction crews to resolve any unforeseen issues during construction

Approximately $7,000,000 in FESP funds will be used to complete the construction of the subject project.

I certify that the statements contained herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and further certify that the use of Force Account to perform the work described herein is in the best interest of the citizens of Los Angeles and the State of California.

By: _____

for **WILLIAM A. ROBERTSON, Director**
Bureau of Street Services

WAR/FC/sl