



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 26, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Liam Garland, Director, Public Works
Subject: Contract: Diablo Engineering Group for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design for the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Diablo Engineering Group for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design for the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety project, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$550,000, for the period June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The contract is funded by a grant from the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) using discretionary Alameda County Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) and Measure BB sales taxes. Funding will be recommended for appropriation through the second amendment to the annual appropriations ordinance in the Capital Grant - Local Fund budget code: 307-54-622-662-0000-000-431-612310-PWTRBP2204 and in the Measure BB Fund (Bicycle & Pedestrian) budget code: 135-54-622-662-0000-000-431-612310-PWTRBP2204.

Total contract NTE amount\$550,000

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In January 2022, the City released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), Specification No. 22-11494-C, seeking qualified firms to provide Preliminary Engineering and Final Design for the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety Project. The consultant’s scope in the RFQ included project management, review of Citywide pedestrian and bicycle plans in developing a detailed project scope that achieves the goals of these plans, conceptual design, preliminary engineering, community outreach and engagement, environmental certification, and final design services that culminate in plans and specifications that are suitable for obtaining construction bids.

On February 22, 2022, the City received two proposals from professional engineering consulting firms, which were evaluated by a panel of City staff using a set of pre-established criteria that included the City of Berkeley local vendor preference policy and the Alameda CTC Local Business Contract Equity (LBCE) program.

Both firms demonstrated extensive relevant capabilities and experience in their proposals, and therefore both were invited to participate in an online oral interview. The same panel evaluated the firms' interviews and aggregated their respective scores. The panel found Diablo Engineering Group to be the highest-ranking firm based on their total score, as calculated from the sum of their proposal and interview scores. City staff notified both proposers of this result and negotiated a detailed scope and associated fees with Diablo Engineering Group that achieves the Project goals.

The provided services will support the Strategic Plan goals of creating a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city and being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety project is to construct operational and safety improvements to a ½-mile long portion of the Ohlone Greenway mixed-use pedestrian and bicycle pathway, from the Virginia Gardens crossing at the southernmost Project limit, to the Santa Fe Avenue crossing at the northernmost limit. The Project goals are to: upgrade the pathway as a low-stress pedestrian and bicycle path; better accommodate the needs of all users; and improve safety, especially at roadway intersections and during non-daylight hours.

The Project would implement the 2017 Berkeley Bicycle Plan Tier 1 priority recommendations for pathway and intersection improvements to the Ohlone Greenway, as this pathway receives high volumes of pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The Project corridor also intersects and includes crossing safety improvements at two local High-Injury Street segments, Cedar and Rose Streets, as identified in the 2020 Berkeley Vision Zero Action Plan. The proposed pathway improvements are also included in the 2016 Berkeley Strategic Transportation (BeST) Plan, which designates the Project as a priority and a "signature project", as the BeST Plan seeks to increase mobility, user safety, access to commercial districts and opportunity areas, choices for mode of transportation, and environmental sustainability/resiliency.

In early 2021, the City submitted a grant application to Alameda CTC to fund the majority of the consultant and construction costs for this Project. In late 2021, the City was awarded a \$1.271 million grant by Alameda CTC for these purposes, with the remainder of the Project funding identified as local matching funds. The grant funding stipulates that consultant services are to be procured via a request for proposal (RFP) or RFQ and that the provisions of the Alameda CTC LBCE program be incorporated into the selection of the consultant and administration of its contract. The Project milestone

schedule, included as part of the grant funding agreement, indicates a project completion date of December 2024. In order to meet this schedule, a contract with Diablo Engineering Group will need to be executed soon.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The proposed pathway improvements are anticipated to increase the number of pedestrians and bicyclists, which is consistent with the 2009 Berkeley Climate Action Plan Policy 5.a that calls for expanding and improving Berkeley's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. The Plan sets targets of reducing transportation emissions 33% below year 2000 levels by 2020 and 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. The Plan further states that transportation modes such as public transit, walking, and bicycling must become the primary means of fulfilling the City's mobility needs in order to meet these targets.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Diablo Engineering Group will keep the Project on schedule for preliminary engineering, community outreach and engagement, environmental certification, and final design services in 2022 and the first half of 2023, followed by construction of the Project in late 2023 to mid-2024.

The proposal and interview with Diablo Engineering Group's project personnel demonstrates that this team, including their proposed project manager, has extensive experience working with key railroad stakeholders and is well-qualified to provide the City with the needed project management, conceptual design, preliminary engineering, community outreach and engagement, environmental certification, and final design services for the Project.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

City Council could opt not to approve the consultant contract with Diablo Engineering Group at this time and instead defer the item to a future Council agenda. This decision would delay the start of the Project and would endanger the delivery of the Project by the milestones indicated in the grant funding agreement. Execution of this contract will enable the City to complete the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety project on schedule, as in-house staffing levels are insufficient to perform the necessary services.

CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Deputy Director, Public Works (510) 981-7061

Kenneth Jung, Supervising Civil Engineer, Public Works, (510) 981-7028

Attachments:

1: Resolution

2: Project Limits

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: DIABLO ENGINEERING GROUP FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
AND FINAL DESIGN FOR OHLONE GREENWAY MODERNIZATION AND SAFETY
PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has determined that consultant services are needed for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design for the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety project (Project); and

WHEREAS, in January 2022, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Qualifications, Specification No. 22-11494-C, for the work of this Project, received two valid proposals by the due date of February 22, 2022, and reviewed the proposals according to the scoring criteria in the RFQ; and

WHEREAS, after a thorough review and evaluation of the proposals, Diablo Engineering Group was found to be the highest-ranked firm and possess the requisite qualifications and experience and was deemed competent to perform the work of this Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project was identified in (a) the Berkeley Bicycle Plan as a Tier 1 priority for improvements to the Ohlone Greenway pathway and (b) the Berkeley Strategic Transportation (BeST) Plan, which designates the Project as a priority and a “signature project”; and

WHEREAS, intersections within the Project corridor include crossing safety improvements at two local High-Injury Street segments, Cedar and Rose Streets, and identified in the 2020 Berkeley Vision Zero Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, \$550,000 of funding will be recommended for appropriation through the second amendment to the annual appropriations ordinance in the Capital Grant Fund – Local (Fund 307) and in the Measure BB (Bicycle & Pedestrian) (Fund 135).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Diablo Engineering Group for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design for the Ohlone Greenway Modernization and Safety project, for an amount not to exceed \$550,000, for the period from June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. A record signature copy of said contract and any amendments is to be on file in the City Clerk Department.

ATTACHMENT 2
PROJECT LIMITS



Source: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/>

