

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Environmental Sustainability Strategy Contract Award
DEPARTMENT:	Planning and Development Services
PRESENTED BY:	Joe Tovar, Director, Planning & Development Services Juniper Garver-Hume, Planner, Planning & Development Services

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Staff is recommending in this report that Council authorize the City Manager to execute the services contract with AHBL for development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy, Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 4289, was discussed at the May 7th, 2007 Council meeting as part of the update on Council Goal 6: "Create an Environmentally Sustainable Community." The purpose of this services contract to develop a strategy with the following objectives:

- Criteria for environmentally sustainable decision making;
- Assessment of how the city is doing so far and suggestions for improvement
- Measures for tracking progress towards environmental sustainability;
- Capacity assessment for implementation of the proposed strategy including financial, staffing, and community involvement requirements.

The City's new Sustainability Team reviewed eight Statements of Qualifications and interviewed the top two finalists. AHBL demonstrated the best mix of experience, relevant expertise, and strongest approach proposal combined with the ability to do the project on time and on budget.

Council authorization to execute this contract is necessary at this point in time to move forward with implementation of this goal.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The City Council approved \$100,000 in the 2007 budget to support the preparation of a Strategy to Create a Sustainable City of Shoreline. The proposed contract amount for this purpose is \$75,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council authorize the City Manager to execute the services contract with AHBL for development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Approved By: City Manager  City Attorney ____

INTRODUCTION

The City Council adopted "Create an Environmentally Sustainable Community" as Council Goal 6 of the 2007-2008 Council Goals. Council was presented with a Goal 6 Project Status update on May 7th, 2007 and subsequently adopted the complementary Resolution No. 260, expressing the City's interest in being designated as a "Cascade Agenda City." The interdepartmental sustainability teams continue to work on implementation of this goal and are ready to be work with this consultant on developing an overarching Environmental Sustainability Strategy for achieving this goal and is the first step towards becoming a Cascade Agenda City. This Strategy will provide future guidance and support for other City projects and goals underway concurrently with the strategy development, such as the Urban Forestry Assessment, the Pilot Green Street project, the City's capital improvement projects, and support of the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement.

BACKGROUND

In April 2007, the City of Shoreline solicited Statements of Qualifications from consultant teams for the preparation of an Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Eight consultant teams submitted proposals for the Sustainability Strategy project. After a thorough interview process, the firm of AHBL, with sub-consultant O'Brien and Company, was selected.

Once this contract is awarded, the consultant will work with City Staff from Planning and Development Services, Public Works, Finance/Information Technology, and Parks to develop an overarching strategy that will guide the City's decision making and track progress towards an Environmentally Sustainable Community.

The project scope of services includes:

- Defining the concept of "sustainability" more specifically for the purposes of this project, including a working mission statement and framework goals and objectives.
- Researching other communities' with similar or relevant characteristics that have sustainability programs and developing recommendations for sustainability related decision-making criteria and appropriate baseline conditions and measures that can be easily established using existing data.
- Assessing existing City policies, codes, programs and operations and make recommendations regarding what contributes to and what hinders sustainability and what the City can do differently.
- Facilitating two Community Conversations to ensure that the criteria and measures of sustainability selected are the ones that are important to the residents of Shoreline and to identify the community resources and commitment to the Strategy Implementation. A conceptual mapping exercise that centers on a discussion of and citizen collaboration on identifying a Green Infrastructure system will be included as part of this process.

- Presenting the *Sustainability Strategy* concepts, findings, and draft recommendations to City Council for review and feedback prior to compiling the Draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy.
- Incorporating Council comments, public input and staff revisions to create the City of Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy for adoption by City Council in early 2008.

The Sustainability Strategy development contract is scheduled to begin shortly after authorization from Council and the target for final adoption for this Strategy is February 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council authorize the City Manager to execute the services contract with AHBL for development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

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