

**DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2025**

**FROM: ENGINEERING**

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - APPROVAL OF PERSONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE BERTHS 126-129 WHARF REDEVELOPMENT**

**SUMMARY:**

Staff requests approval of a personal services agreement (Agreement) between the City of Los Angeles (City) Harbor Department (Harbor Department) and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM), to provide professional engineering services for the Berths 126-129 Wharf Redevelopment project (Project). The Agreement has a contract term of three years, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,610,000. The Harbor Department will be financially responsible for the payment of expenses incurred under the proposed Agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve a personal services agreement with AECOM for engineering services for the Project with a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,610,000 and a term of three years;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to said Agreement, for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_.

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**DISCUSSION:**

Background – The Harbor Department is committed to improving capacity and optimizing the efficiency of the supply chain. The existing wharf at Berths 126-129 currently services vessels no larger than 8,000 TEUs. While vessels of 8,000 TEU capacity were considered large 15 years ago, vessels of over 20,000 TEU capacity have entered the world fleet and call at the Port of Los Angeles (Port). The proposed Project will accommodate the berthing, loading, and unloading of containerized cargo of the larger vessels that are anticipated to call at this wharf in the future. This objective will be accomplished by enlarging and modernizing the wharf and deepening the berths to provide the physical and operational capacity to handle the projected cargo throughput and increased vessel size.

The Project is located west of the West Basin Channel. The project area is within the West Basin Container Terminal complex, Berths 126-129 (Transmittal 1).

Scope of Services - AECOM shall provide professional engineering services under this Agreement. AECOM will prepare design plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E's) for the Project, perform design support during construction, as well as as-needed tasks including additional design services. Additional design services will support long-term project functionality and coordination with stakeholders. The proposed Agreement (Transmittal 2) includes tasks and deliverables as well as a schedule with estimated timelines. The number of tasks and scope of the Project requires some flexibility; therefore, the Harbor Department may adjust this schedule as needed.

A Notice to Proceed from the Engineering Division is required prior to AECOM proceeding with each individual task. The Harbor Department will incur no penalty should the Harbor Department decide not to proceed with any individual task.

Consultant Selection Process – A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Project was issued on April 9, 2025, and advertised on the Regional Alliance Marketplace for Procurement (RAMP) and on the Port website. Written proposals for the Project were submitted by four firms by May 12, 2025.

The Contracts and Purchasing Division determined that all four proposals were responsive to the RFP's administrative requirements. After a complete evaluation of the written proposals by the selection committee consisting of staff from the Harbor Department's Engineering and Construction Divisions, and the Port of Long Beach, all four proposing firms were invited to be interviewed on August 6, 2025.

During the interview, each firm presented its proposal and responded to a set of formulated questions and follow-up questions from the selection committee. The written proposals and responses were rated by each member of the selection committee and each firm was given a combined score (Transmittal 3).

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The selection committee then chose AECOM based on the design approach presented, knowledge and experience on similar projects, outstanding project team organizational format, relevant experience, expertise of the key project team members, value provided for proposed fee, knowledge of the Harbor Department and its community relationships, and their experience with the relevant regulatory agencies. AECOM qualified as a Local Business Enterprise (LBE) under the Local Business Preference Program and received an 8% preference on their proposal score.

Contract Amount and Term – The not-to-exceed amount for the Agreement is \$7,610,000. The term of the Agreement is three years.

Contract Requirements – This Agreement is in conformance with both the City Service Contract Worker Retention and Living Wage Ordinances.

Throughout the term of the Agreement, AECOM will maintain compliance with the City’s contracting requirements. This project has a mandatory participation requirement of 25% from a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and 5% from a Very Small Business Enterprise (VSBE). Through the use of certified sub-consultants, AECOM met the mandatory SBE requirement with 26.4% participation (32.3% when combined with VSBE) and met the VSBE requirement with 5.9% participation; this is based on contract amount excluding allowance items. This represents \$1,651,060 in services going to these various business enterprises.

Charter Section 1022 Notifications were sent to other City Departments and City staff is not available to assist the Harbor Department with this design project.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:**

The proposed action is approval of an Agreement between the Harbor Department and AECOM to provide professional engineering and architectural services for the Berths 126-129 Wharf Redevelopment Project, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines. This action is limited to the engineering and architectural services and any development would undergo additional CEQA review.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the proposed three-year Agreement authorizes a total not-to-exceed amount of \$7,610,000. It is anticipated that funds for this Agreement will be expended as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2025/2026	\$2,500,000
2026/2027	\$4,000,000
2027/2028	\$1,110,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,610,000</b>

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Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/2026 funding in the amount \$2,500,000 is available within Account 161305 (Construction in Progress), Division 00000 (Global Harbor), Project 65000023 (Berths 126-129 Wharf Redevelopment). Future fiscal year funding will be requested to be budgeted as part of the annual budgeting process, subject to Board approval. If any subsequent fiscal year funds are not appropriated by the Board for the work required by this Agreement, the Agreement shall be terminated. However, such termination shall not relieve the parties of liability for any obligations previously incurred. A funding out clause is included in this Agreement.

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Agreement as to form and legality.

**TRANSMITTALS:**

1. Site Plan – Berth 126-129 Wharf Redevelopment Project
2. Agreement between the City of Los Angeles and AECOM Technical Services Inc.
3. Final Evaluation Summary

FIS Approval: JS  
 CA Approval: SO



JAMES C. BROWN, P.E.  
Chief Harbor Engineer

for



DINA ARYAN-ZAHLAN, P.E.  
Deputy Executive Director, Development

APPROVED:



EUGENE D. SEROKA  
Executive Director

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