



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: DECEMBER 20, 2019

FROM: PORT POLICE

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND CANINE DEPLOYMENT STRATEGIES TO PROVIDE K-9 TRAINING SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of an Agreement with Canine Deployment Strategies (CDS), Long Beach, CA, to provide professional services to maintain the patrol and narcotics/explosives detection skills of canines (K-9s) and their handlers through quarterly training and certification. This action will authorize a one-year contract term with two, one-year renewal options for an amount not to exceed Fifty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$57,600). This contract is the financial responsibility of the Harbor Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined 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. Find that in accordance with the Los Angeles City Charter Section 1022, the services to be provided herein are of a professional, expert, technical, and of a temporary and occasional character, and there are no known Harbor Department personnel or current City job classifications with the expertise to perform the work being proposed for contracting;
3. Award the one-year agreement with two, one-year renewal options, to Canine Deployment Strategies;
4. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to the Agreement; and
5. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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DISCUSSION:

Background – The Harbor Department requires the professional services of an outside consultant to provide training for new and existing K-9s and their handlers engaged in patrol and narcotics/explosives detection duties.

Since July 1, 2016, K-9 training has been conducted on a monthly basis, as per industry standards, by a Port Police Sergeant with oversight from Resolution K9, LLC (Resolution). The consultant services provided by Resolution occurred on a quarterly basis and were authorized by an Annual Purchase Order (No. 31765-17) which expired June 30, 2019. The K-9 training program requires the continued assistance of an outside consultant as the Consultant and Sergeant perform different tasks with different skill sets.

The role of the Sergeant is to provide maintenance training to Port Police dogs and their handlers. The Sergeant is also responsible for performance oversight of each handler/dog team, identifying any performance flaws, and identifying solutions for those issues discovered during training.

The role of the Consultant trainer is to provide third-party oversight in all phases of the K-9 program. The Consultant works alongside the Sergeant to ensure performance goals are met. The skillsets brought by the Consultant go beyond handling routine maintenance and competency testing. The extensive knowledge and experience of the Consultant provides an enhanced platform of training concepts that are directly applicable to the actions of Port Police Officers and their assigned dogs. The addition of the Consultant trainer also helps to mitigate potential liability through proactive advanced preparation of Port Police personnel.

Selection Process – On August 26, 2019, a Request for Proposals for a K-9 Training and Certification Provider was posted on the Harbor Department's website and the City of Los Angeles' contracts management and opportunities database, the Los Angeles Business Assistance Virtual Network (LABAVN). Twenty-three unique viewers accessed the RFP via LABAVN and five responsive proposals were received by the September 17, 2019 deadline.

An evaluation team consisting of staff from Port Police and the Beverly Hills Police Department rated the proposals on the following criteria: Firm Qualifications, Experience and References; Personnel and Staffing; Training Techniques; Costs; and Clarity and Comprehensiveness of the Proposal. Firms could receive a maximum score of 100. Evaluators were able to rate each of the five criteria on a scale of 0 to 5 and the criteria were weighted at 6, 5, 4, 2, and 3, respectively. Responsive proposals were rated as follows:

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Rank	Score	Company
1	93.33	Canine Deployment Strategies
2	74.33	Company B
3	73.33	Company C
4	64.67	Company D
5	42.67	Company E

Based on the proposal evaluations (Transmittal 1), Canine Deployment Strategies was ranked as the number one firm by each of the three raters and is being recommended for contracting. Therefore, staff recommends entering into a Personal Services Agreement with CDS (Transmittal 2) with a one-year term and two one-year renewal options.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of an Agreement with CDS to provide professional services to maintain the patrol and narcotics/explosives detection skills of K-9s and their handlers through quarterly training and certification, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed agreement is for a one-year term with two, one-year renewal options, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$57,600.

Funding in the amount of \$19,200 has been budgeted in Fiscal Year 19/20. Spending for this project in the Port Police Operating Budget, Center 0412, Program 000, Account 51720 (Training Fees and Materials) is expected to occur as follows:

Fiscal Year	Contract Maximum
2019-2020	\$19,200
2020-2021	\$19,200
2021-2022	\$19,200
Total	\$57,600

Funding for future fiscal years will be requested as part of the annual budget process.

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A funding out clause, also known as a termination of agreement for non-appropriation of funds clause, has been included in the proposed Agreement.

CITY ATTORNEY:

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

TRANSMITTAL:

1. Scoring Matrix
2. Personal Services Agreement

FIS Approval: MB (initials)
CA Approval: CRB (initials)



RANDALL ALLEN
Deputy Chief of Police



THOMAS E. GAZSI
Chief of Public Safety and
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APPROVED:



EUGENE D. SEROKA
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