



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**

Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2021

FROM: ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO AGREEMENT NO. 18-3618 BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND MARK THOMAS & COMPANY, INC. TO PREPARE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATES (PS&E) FOR THE STATE ROUTE 47(SR-47)/VINCENT THOMAS BRIDGE AND FRONT STREET/HARBOR BOULEVARD INTERCHANGE RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

SUMMARY:

Staff requests the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board) adopt a Resolution approving Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 18-3618 (Agreement) between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) and Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. (Consultant) of Irvine, California, to prepare Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) for the State Route 47 (SR-47)/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project (Project). The original agreement was approved by the Board on November 15, 2018 for the amount of \$2,999,986.

Amendment No. 1 will allow the Harbor Department to complete the PS&E's for the Project with the same Engineer of Record, adds professional services to the Agreement to include unforeseen engineering design work, and adds \$1,997,887 in compensation for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$4,997,873. The term remains at three years.

Staff will seek separate Board approval to add four years to the term. Payment of expenses incurred under this agreement will continue to be the financial responsibility of the Harbor Department.

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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. Find that in accordance with the City Charter Section 1022, the services required can be performed more feasibly by an outside contractor than by City employees;
3. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 18-3618 between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. to prepare and complete the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) for the State Route 47 (SR-47)/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project (Project) utilizing the same Engineer of Record by adding \$1,997,887 to the compensation for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$4,997,873;
4. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to said Amendment for and on behalf of the Board; and
5. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DISCUSSION:

Background and Context

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) is committed to improving transportation safety and operation in and around the Port of Los Angeles complex. Currently, westbound State Route 47 (SR-47) traffic and southbound Interstate 110 (I-110) traffic destined for the West Basin and San Pedro Waterfront areas exit at Harbor Boulevard. Significant non-standard weaving conditions exist as traffic travels through the Harbor Boulevard off-ramp. Non-standard merging also exists on the eastbound SR-47 on-ramp from Harbor Boulevard as traffic approaches the Vincent Thomas Bridge. Vehicles routinely back up onto both off-ramps during peak periods as a result of the two freeways (I-110 & SR-47) terminating at the same point. With the projected future growth and the development of the Waterfront, the Harbor Department anticipates that traffic congestion will increase and greatly reduce the operational efficiency of the interchange.

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To mitigate this operational deficiency, the Harbor Department proposes to relocate the existing westbound SR-47 off-ramp north of the Vincent Thomas Bridge at Front Street and Knoll Drive. Relocating the off-ramp to the north will separate traffic travelling from both freeways into two different exits (Harbor Boulevard/Swinford Street and Front Street/Knoll Drive), allowing for efficient movement of vehicles through the interchange that are destined for the cruise terminal, Waterfront Development, and other recreational facilities. In addition, the Project will reduce delay, potential for accidents/non-recurrent congestion, and emissions.

The Project is located within the boundaries of Knoll Drive to the north, Swinford Street to the south, Front Street to the east, and the I-110/SR-47 freeway interchange to the west as shown in the site map (Transmittal 1).

Amendment No. 1 adds professional services to the Agreement to design extensive soil settlement mitigation work to mitigate unforeseen soil conditions found under the proposed off-ramp/on-ramp embankments. During development of the PS&E, Staff found that the existing soil can settle up to 26-inches, and the settlement mitigation work will overload the soil so the settlement period occurs during the construction period. Amendment No. 1 also adds professional services not included in the original Agreement for site drainage, landscaping, non-standard retaining wall support, and architectural wall treatments. Amendment No. 1 increases the compensation to complete the PS&E's, perform additional surveys, provide a Pre-Construction Record of Survey, supply design services during construction related to the settlement mitigation work, and provide as-needed Engineering Services.

The proposed project improvements are located on property within three jurisdictions: State of California, City of Los Angeles, and the Harbor District. Each agency must review and approve the Project's proposed improvements that requires extensive coordination with each agency on a monthly, and in some cases weekly basis. Additionally, there are many stakeholders that require coordination: Los Angeles Fire Department, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, United States Department of Navy, grant funding agencies, and several utility owners. The level of effort for this coordination work has greatly exceeded what was originally anticipated, and will increase with the work included in Amendment No. 1.

With approval of the aforementioned additional scope, the Harbor Department will complete the PS&E's utilizing the same Engineer of Record and complete the PS&E's by December 5, 2021, which meets the reimbursement requirements for nearly \$3.5 million in design grant funds awarded for this Project. The Department risks losing the \$3.5-million in design grant funds should the PS&E's be completed after December 5, 2021. The Department has also been awarded over \$60 million in construction grant funds for this Project.

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Scope of Services

Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. shall provide professional engineering services under this personal services agreement to prepare PS&E's for the SR-47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project. The attached Agreement includes tasks and deliverables (Transmittal 2).

Amendment No. 1 adds additional professional engineering services to complete the PS&E's for the Project, including additional survey, geotechnical engineering, specialty structural engineering, civil engineering, landscape architectural design, project coordination, design services during Construction, and as-needed engineering services.

A notice to proceed from the Engineering Division is required prior to the Consultant proceeding with each individual task. The Harbor Department incurs no penalty should the Harbor Department decide not to proceed with any individual task.

Contract Amount and Term

The original Agreement included Compensation for a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,999,986 over a term of three years.

Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement increases the Compensation by \$1,997,887 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$4,997,873. The term remains at three years.

Staff will seek separate Board approval to add four years to the term.

Contract Requirements

Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement is in conformance with both the City Service Contract Worker Retention and Living Wage Ordinances.

Throughout the term of the Agreement, Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. will maintain compliance with the City of Los Angeles' (City) contracting requirements. Mark Thomas & Company, Inc.'s overall sub-consultant business enterprise proposal is 31.7% Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and Very Small Business Enterprise combined. This represents \$1,584,325 in services going to these various business enterprises. Local Business Enterprise (LBE) participation is 26.13%.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. to prepare PS&E for the State Route 47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange 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 CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement authorizes the total not-to-exceed amount of \$4,997,873 and will commit \$503,670 in funding for the current fiscal year. Funds for this Agreement will be expended as follows:

FISCAL YEAR (FY)		AMOUNT
Prior Years:	\$	1,609,590.56
FY 2020/2021:	\$	503,670.00
FY 2021/2022:	\$	2,884,612.44
Total:	\$	\$4,997,873.00

Funds for Fiscal Year 2021 in the amount \$503,670 are budgeted in Account 54220 (Architectural/Engineering Design), Center 1172, Program 000, Project No. 2533400. The Harbor Department's financial commitments for the proposed Agreement beyond the current fiscal year are contingent upon approval of funds by the Board as part of the annual budget adoption process. 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.

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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has prepared and approved the Amendment as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Site Map – State Route 47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project
2. Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 18-8618 between the City of Los Angeles and Mark Thomas & Company, Inc.

FIS Approval: MB
CA Approval: JS

D.M. Walsh
DAVID M. WALSH, P.E.
Chief Harbor Engineer

Antonio V. Gioiello
ANTONIO V. GIOIELLO, P.E.
Deputy Executive Director

APPROVED:

Marla Bleavins FOR

EUGENE D. SEROKA
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