



CITY OF  
**PALO  
ALTO**

## City Council Staff Report

**From: City Manager**

**Report Type: CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Lead Department: Transportation**

**Meeting Date: June 3, 2024**

Report #:2403-2818

### **TITLE**

Approval of Construction Contract Number C24189247 with Bear Electrical Solutions, Inc. in the amount Not to Exceed \$600,000 to provide On-Call Services for Traffic Signal and Electrical Services; CEQA status – categorically exempt (CEQA Guidelines Section 15301).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve and authorize the City Manager or their designee to execute the linked construction contract with Bear Electrical Solutions, Contract No. C24189247<sup>1</sup>, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 over four (4) years for On-Call Services for Traffic Signal and Electrical Services, Capital Improvement Program Projects PL-12000, PL-00026, and PL-05030.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The contract for On-Call Traffic Signal and Electrical Services provides for minor improvements to traffic signals, pedestrian warning beacons, and other traffic-related electronic devices identified in response to community service requests such as pedestrian crossing installations and traffic signal improvements on an as-needed basis throughout the term of the contract.

### **BACKGROUND**

Since the adoption of the Palo Alto 311 service request tracking system in April 2015, the Office of Transportation has received community-submitted requests, including items such as the installation of new pedestrian crossing beacons, electronic speed sign installation, installation or modification of existing traffic signals, and traffic-related requests. Staff follows up on such requests as well as proactively determines where modifications to traffic control devices are appropriate. On-call services for traffic-related electrical services provide a cost-effective means

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/transportation/city-council-docs/c24189247-bear-electrical-solutions-inc-final.pdf>

to implement such changes to maintain safety and improve ongoing operations throughout the City.

The on-call services would be used in smaller-scale efforts to modify or upgrade existing traffic signals and to upgrade or install new pedestrian crossing beacons and vehicle speed feedback signs. Upgrades to traffic signals may include upgrading pedestrian push buttons to meet new standards for accessible pedestrian signal (APS) systems and upgrading to modern detection systems.

### **ANALYSIS**

The City released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) number 189247 on January 25, 2024, for On-call Traffic Signal and Electrical Services. Bids were opened on February 28, 2024, and the City received one bid in response to the IFB. The bid received was competitive with current trending rates and the bidder provided for the costs of each sample task, as defined in the Scope of Work (see attached contract). The sample tasks defined in the scope of work are anticipated repairs or minor modifications and are similar to individual tasks of similar skill that are often lumped together as part of larger stand-alone projects which would typically go through its own dedicated competitive bid process. Staff has reviewed and accepted the bid submitted and declares Bear Electric Solutions, Inc. as the lowest responsive bidder.

The contract for On-Call Traffic Signal and Electrical Services contractor is essential to the closure of service requests related to operations and improvements to traffic signals, and electronic pedestrian and vehicular devices. The City has verified the Bear Electrical Solutions, Inc. contractor license, and contacted references. The company is in good standing with the State of California with its registration with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and California Secretary of State and Contractor State License Board (CSLB). In addition, Bear Electrical Solutions, Inc. has recently provided exceptional work, in the City of Palo Alto and is familiar with all required City *Standards and Specifications*, as well as the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Table 1 below summarizes the invitation for bids process.

**Table 1: Summary of Bid Process**

Bid Name/Number	On-Call Traffic Signal and Electrical Services (Construction IFB-189247)
Proposed Length of Project	4-years after Contract Execution
Number of Bid Packages downloaded by Contractors	11
Number of Bid Packages downloaded by Builder's Exchanges	7
Total Days to Respond to Bid	39
Pre-Bid Meeting	No
Number of Bids Received:	1
Public Link to Solicitation	<a href="#">Project overview (opengov.com)</a>
Bid Price Range	\$600,000

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT**

Funding for this contract is available in the Fiscal Year 2024 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget for the Traffic Signal and ITS Improvements (PL-05030), Parking & Transportation Improvements (PL-12000), and Safe Routes to School (PL-00026) projects. No additional funding is needed or anticipated for the duration of this contract.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

This contract and associated work qualify for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines section 15301 (existing facilities). No trees will be removed, and all work will occur within the existing public right-of-way. The contract will result in the minor alteration of existing traffic signals and pedestrian crossing facilities.

**APPROVED BY:**

Philip Kamhi, Chief Transportation Official