

#13-1038

TO:	Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM:	Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager
DATE:	August 20, 2013
TITLE:	Motion to approve Task Order No. 16 with Miller, Legg & Associates, Inc. – \$38,460 – Parcel 21B Native Vegetation Protection and Tree Inventory

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve Task Order No. 16 with Miller, Legg & Associates, Inc., in the amount \$38,460.

<u>Background</u>

Parcel 21B is an approximately six acre undeveloped parcel located at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. This parcel is available for development purposes; however, the parcel has been designated as a Natural Resource Area (NRA) by Broward County. This NRA designation requires additional coordination with the County to identify the most critical habitat on-site and then designate that area for preservation rather than just individual trees. Staff is seeking to advance the development potential of the parcel by identifying protected tree species and obtaining appropriate tree removal/relocation permits from the Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department (BCEPGMD) and/or the City. The ultimate intent is to develop the property areas that are outside of the designated preservation area.

Staff is also seeking to clear the exotic overgrowth as appropriate to aid in the proper management of the site, discouraging homeless occupation of the site, and to facilitate the tree inventory for permitting purposes. Due to the extensive overgrowth of exotic vegetation, staff is proposing to clear the site of exotic vegetation by the Airport clearing contractor with appropriate oversight from a qualified biologist/arborist to identify and prevent any accidental or intentional removal of native vegetation during the initial exotic clearing stage. Following the exotic plant species clearing, a native tree inventory shall be conducted for the purposes of determining preservation and permit requirements.

Staff has negotiated Task Order No. 16, in an amount not to exceed \$38,460, with the City's General Environmental Engineering Consultant, Miller, Legg & Associates, Inc., to provide the following services on Parcel 21B:

- Obtain the required letter of authorization from BCEPGMD for advanced clearing work of exotic vegetation within an NRA;
- Provide observation of the Airport's clearing contractor during removal of the exotic vegetation and appropriate "tree canopy understory" and provide daily reports;
- Conduct a tree inventory of the native vegetation that is adequate for permitting purposes;
- Process an application through BCEPGMD for a tree removal permit that will result in the identification of the Natural Resource Area to be preserved.

This item was reviewed and approved by the Aviation Advisory Board at the Board's June 27, 2013 meeting.

Resource Impact

There is a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$38,460.

Funding for the above is available from the Airport's FY2012-2013 Operating Budget in Fund 468, Sub-fund 01, TAM070101-3199.

	SUB				SUB		
FUND	FUND	FUND NAME	INDEX #	INDEX NAME	OBJECT #	SUBOBJECT NAME	AMOUNT
468		AIRPORT FUND	TAM070101	EXECUTIVE AIRPORT		OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 38,460.00
				TOTAL			\$ 38,460.00

Attachments: Exhibit 1 – Task Order No. 16

Prepared by: Talal Abi-Karam, P.E., Assistant Director of Public Works - Engineering

Department Director: Hardeep Anand, P.E., Public Works