



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#24-1124

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

DATE: December 17, 2024

TITLE: Motion Approving a Third Amendment to the Agreement with BDO USA, P.C., a Virginia Corporation Authorized to Conduct Business in the State of Florida as, BDO USA, P.C., Corp. to Add Taft Infrastructure Advisors, LLC as Subconsultant for Consulting Services for the New River Crossing Project - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a Third Amendment to the Agreement with BDO USA, P.C. (BDO), a Virginia Corporation, authorized to conduct business in the State of Florida and authorize execution of the agreement, in substantially the form attached, to add Taft Infrastructure Advisors, LLC (Taft) as a subconsultant.

Background

On November 21, 2023, the City Commission approved a walk-on item, Resolution 23-277 Waiving the Formal Competitive Solicitation and Selection Processes Pursuant to Division 2, Procurement, of Article V. of Chapter 2 of the City of Fort Lauderdale Procurement Ordinance, for Consulting Services with BDO for the New River Crossing project.

On December 19, 2023, the City Commission approved an agreement with BDO for Consulting Services to Develop the Project Scope for the New River Crossing Project. The agreement defined the terms and conditions for BDO to complete such work. The City Commission received the BDO final report via Commission Memo 24-062 in April 2024.

On April 16, 2024, BDO presented at the City Commission Conference meeting which included an overview of current potential Federal grant opportunities. The City Commission did not provide specific direction but indicated general support to pursue potential funding opportunities.

On May 7, 2024, the City Commission approved a first amendment to the agreement with BDO to provide additional funding in the amount of \$50,000 to the existing agreement so

that BDO could provide additional services associated with grant writing. The additional funds have not been utilized to date.

The City Commission approved Resolution 24-51 on March 5, 2024, approving a grant agreement and authorizing the acceptance of \$974,000 from the United States Department of Transportation for the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) Demonstration Program. After the agreement was executed, City staff and the grantor completed a project kick-off meeting to discuss the project timelines, objectives, and potential challenges. City staff requested that BDO be permitted to serve as the City's consultant given their familiarity with the project, the existing agreement between the City of Fort Lauderdale and BDO, and the potential delays associated with procuring, selecting, and transitioning the project to a different consulting firm. On July 22, 2024, the grantor approved the request.

On August 20, 2024, the City Commission approved the second amendment which allocated \$974,000 to the BDO agreement. The second amendment incorporated the tasks defined in the RIA agreement into the BDO agreement, extending the BDO contract term to align with the RIA grant timeline, and allocated \$974,000 towards the agreement. This additional \$974,000 is reimbursable from the grantor.

City staff recommend that the City Commission approve the third amendment to add Taft as a subconsultant to the BDO agreement. Taft is an infrastructure advisory firm that provides project development and structuring services, infrastructure studies, financial advisory and strategy services, market positioning and bid advisory services, as well as program management and capacity building services.

Resource Impact

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *FY 2024 Commission Priority*, advancing the Transportation & Traffic Initiative.

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are United*.

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan* specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Transportation & Mobility Element
- Goal 2: Obtain the highest possible value and utility from investments in the City's transportation network

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Third Amendment

Exhibit 2 – Taft Infrastructure Advisors, LLC Overview

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Charter Officer: Susan Grant, City Manager's Office