



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
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DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU, Acting Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **AE-2**

October 7, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AS-NEEDED LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES  
VARIOUS COUNTY PROJECTS  
AWARD ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING AGREEMENTS  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This action is to approve four architectural/engineering (A/E) agreements for a not-to-exceed fee of \$400,000 each for as-needed landscape architectural/engineering design services for 2 years with two optional 2-year extensions.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Award and authorize the Acting Director of Public Works to execute architectural/engineering agreements with Ah'be Landscape Architects, Cornerstone Studios, Mia Lehrer and Associates, and NUVIS for a not-to-exceed fee of \$400,000 each to provide as-needed landscape architectural/engineering design services for various County projects for a 2-year term with two optional 2-year extensions for each firm.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Department of Public Works (Public Works) is experiencing an increase in the number and types of projects that require landscape A/E design services. Examples include the greening of flood control facilities and road rights of way, and landscape/site improvements for County capital projects. Additionally, Public Works has a need for landscape A/E design services to implement projects with a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver level certification and to further investigate the feasibility of incorporating Low Impact Design (LID) into future road and flood control infrastructure projects and new development projects.

The recommended agreements will expand Public Works' existing design capacity on an as-needed basis and help assure we continue to provide high-quality projects within desired timeframes. Use of as-needed consultants allows Public Works to rapidly obtain design services and supplement our in-house landscape A/E design capabilities by expanding the breadth of available expertise and ability to meet schedules during peaks in workload.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of responsive, efficient, and high quality public services. This action meets the goals of Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Organizational Effectiveness (Goal 3) because the use of as-needed A/E agreements enables Public Works to better manage fluctuations and increases in workload while providing quality services in a responsive manner to our clients.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The contract period will be for 2 years with two optional 2-year extensions for each firm. The value of each consultant services agreement is \$400,000, totaling \$1.6 million for the four A/E agreements.

There will be no impact on the County's General Fund as a result of approving this action. Landscape A/E design services utilized under these contracts will be funded from appropriate project budgets and expended as the individual projects are approved by your Board.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

A standard agreement, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The agreements will be in compliance with the Chief Executive Officer's and your Board's requirements.

The agreements will contain terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN/GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; and the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

Data regarding the consultants' minority participation is on file with Public Works. The consultants were selected upon final analysis and consideration without regard to race, creed, gender, or color.

These contracts will be for a period of 2 years. With your Board's delegated authority, the Acting Director of Public Works may renew these contracts for two 2-year renewal options, not to exceed a total contract period of 6 years.

The agreements include a cost-of-living adjustment provision in accordance with your Board policy, which was approved on January 29, 2002.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

In accordance with Section 15378(b) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, approval of the recommended action does not constitute a project and, hence, is not subject to the requirements of CEQA.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On December 10, 2007, Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to 36 firms. On January 28, 2008, 18 firms responded to the RFP. An Evaluation Committee, consisting of Public Works' technical and project management staff, evaluated the proposals. Evaluation of the firms was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel, qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. These evaluations were completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. Based on their review and evaluation of the proposals, the Evaluation Committee recommended Ah'be Landscape Architects, Cornerstone Studios, Mia Lehrer and Associates, and NUVIS as the best qualified firms to perform the specified services.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1988, the RFP was listed on the Doing Business with Us website. A copy of the website posting is attached for your reference.

Ah'be Landscape Architects', Cornerstone Studios', Mia Lehrer and Associates', and NUVIS' Community Business Enterprises participation data and 3-year contracting histories are on file with Public Works.

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to the recommended agreements.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

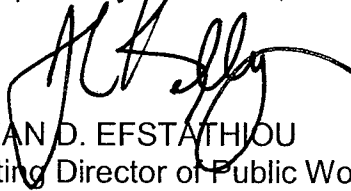
There will be no negative impact on current County services or projects during the performance of the recommended consultant services.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
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**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works,  
Architectural Engineering Division.

Respectfully submitted,



DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU  
Acting Director of Public Works

DDE:DBM:dh

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)  
County Counsel  
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)

## Bid Detail Information

**Bid Number :** AED0000031

**Bid Title :** As-Needed Landscape Architectural/Engineering Design Services Project

**Bid Type :** Service

**Department :** Public Works

**Commodity :** ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES - LANDSCAPE

**Open Date :** 12/10/2007

**Closing Date :** 1/7/2008 5:00 PM

**Bid Amount :** N/A

**Bid Download :** Not Available

**Bid Description :** The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is inviting proposals from qualified architect/engineer firms to provide as-needed landscape architectural/engineering design services for various projects throughout the County of Los Angeles.

The objective of this solicitation is to select up to four firms that are best qualified to provide the requested services. The initial contract period will be for two years commencing on the issuance of the first Notice to Proceed, and each contract shall also include two, two-year options to extend the contract, at Public Works' discretion.

Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to the contact person listed below.

**Contact Name :** Grace Stohs

**Contact Phone# :** (626) 979-5311 Ext: fax

**Contact Email :** gstohs@dpw.lacounty.gov

**Last Changed On :** 12/11/2007 9:33:52 AM

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