



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA / HA / FA MEETING DATE: February 3, 2015

AGENDA CATEGORY:

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE, AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE PERIMETER LANDSCAPING OF CITY-OWNED LOTS ON AVENUE 52

BUSINESS SESSION:

CONSENT CALENDAR: 3

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate, and authorize advertisement for bids for the perimeter landscaping of City-owned lots on Avenue 52.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The City currently owns three vacant lots on the north side of Avenue 52 between Avenida Navarro and Desert Club Drive.
- The near term potential to develop these lots is limited so staff recommended they be minimally landscaped with low maintenance landscaping materials.
- The project entails installation of desert landscaping and drip irrigation along the perimeter of the three lots as well as stabilizing the center of the lots with mulch for dust control.
- The plans, specifications and engineer's estimate are ready to be advertised for construction bids.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This project is included in the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 (Project No. 2014-10) and is programmed to receive \$313,000 from the City's General Fund. The approved budget is as follows:

BUDGET LINE ITEM	BUDGET
Professional:	\$ 15,587
Technical (Insp/Test/Survey):	\$ 20,963
Design:	\$ 21,500
Construction:	\$215,000
Contingency:	\$ 29,200
City Administration:	\$ 10,750
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$313,000

While the approved budget schedules \$313,000 for these improvements, the plant density was reduced as a result of discussions with the City Council. This reduces the projected construction cost by 41 percent, from \$215,000 to \$127,000. There are adequate funds to support staff's recommendation.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Since the realignment of Avenue 52, the former Redevelopment Agency and now the City have owned the vacant lots along the north side of the street just west of Avenida Navarro and Desert Club Drive (Attachment 1). Given their limited size, configuration and adjacency to Avenue 52, staff recommended landscaping these properties because the near term development potential is limited.

As discussed during a study session on December 16, 2014, the plans, specifications and estimate were prepared using a reduced landscape palette for the side street perimeters, while maintaining a traditional desert palette for the Avenue 52 frontage. This has reduced the estimated construction cost of the current design as well as reduced the projected ongoing maintenance and utility costs once the project is complete. All contract documents are available for review in the Public Works Department.

Contingent upon City Council's approval to advertise this project on February 3, 2015, the following represents how the project is expected to proceed:

City Council Bid Authorization	February 3, 2015
Bid Period	February 4 through March 5, 2015
Construction (45 Working Days)	April through June 2015
Accept Improvements	July 2015

ALTERNATIVES:

Since this project will beautify the perimeters and reduce dust emissions from the three City-owned lots on Avenue 52, no additional alternative is recommended.

Report prepared by: Edward J. Wimmer, P.E., Principal Engineer

Report approved for submission by: Timothy R. Jonasson, P.E.

Public Works Director/City Engineer

Attachment: 1. Vicinity Map



