



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of July 23, 2013
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of July 30, 2013

DATE: July 1, 2013
TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager
FROM: Tom Tagliabue, Director, Intergovernmental Relations
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Renewal of state and federal external legislative consultant contracts.

CAPTION:

Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute one year renewal agreements for governmental relation services with Focused Advocacy for state governmental relations services for \$78,000 per year plus reasonable expenses and with Meyers & Associates for federal governmental relations services for \$72,000 per year plus reasonable expenses.

PURPOSE:

Renewal of annual governmental relations contract between the City of Corpus Christi and Focused Advocacy for state governmental relations services and Meyers & Associates for federal governmental relations services.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City has engaged the services of external firms for state and federal governmental relations services for many years. Focused Advocacy became the City's consultant for state matters in 2011, but represented the City before that with a different firm. Meyers and Associates has represented the City since the early 1990s. Both firms are well-respected and connected in their respective legislative arenas and have been effective and resourceful advocates for the City.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) Not renewing one or both of the consulting contacts,
- (2) Attempt to renegotiate the terms of the contracts, or
- (3) Selecting a different organization/individual to represent the City.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Focused Advocacy notified the IGR Director that the monthly retainer will increase in FY 14 from \$6,000 per month to \$6,500 per month due to increased operating expenses. This fact was

revealed long after development of the FY 14 budget was prepared. The contract amounts with Meyers and Associates will not change for FY 14, but could change in future fiscal years.

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

The agreements being proposed for renewal are consistent with past agreements and have been approved by the City Attorney. These funds are available and budgeted for the 2014 fiscal year.

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

This is a non-emergency item.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

ACM – Business Support Services
 City Attorney
 Finance

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

X Operating Revenue Capital Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2014-2015	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Year FY 14	TOTALS
Line Item Budget			\$192,000	\$192,000
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s): 1020, 4010, 4130, and 4200 (federal only)

Comments: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends continuing the City’s existing relationships with both Focused Advocacy in Austin and Meyers & Associates in Washington, D.C., for the 2014 fiscal year. The organizations have a record of success in assisting with achieving the City’s priorities and are responsive to the City’s needs. We recommend approval of the two contracts for the upcoming year.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Renewal contract with Focused Advocacy
2. Renewal contract with Meyers & Associates
3. Certification of Funds