



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of July 24, 2012
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of July 31, 2012

DATE: July 10, 2012
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 renewal agreements for governmental relation services with Focused Advocacy for state governmental relations services and with Meyers & Associates for federal governmental relations services.

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 (1992 or 1993?). Both firms are well-respected and connected in their respective legislative arenas and have been effective and resourceful advocates for the City. The City's previous Director of Intergovernmental Relations, Rudy Garza, successfully negotiated terms of the contracts in 2011 saving the City thousands of dollars per month. The terms of the contracts remain the same for 2012. The instrument engaging Focused Advocacy has changed from a letter agreement to a contract, which City staff believes better represents the scope of work, duties and expectations.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City has only two potential options to renewing the contracts: (1) Not renewing one or both of the consulting contacts or (2) Selecting a different organization/individual to represent the City.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

n/a

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 2012-2013 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: 2011-2012	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget			\$177,000	\$177,000
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s): 1020, 4010, 4130, 4200

Comments:

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends continuing the City’s existing relationships with both Focused Advocacy in Austin and Meyers & Associates in Washington, D.C., for the 2012-2013 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:

Renewal contract with Focused Advocacy
Renewal contract with Meyers & Associates
Certification of Funds