



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of June 23, 2015  
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of July 14, 2015

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**DATE:** June 17, 2015

**TO:** Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

**THRU:** Gustavo Gonzalez, P.E., Assistant City Manager, Public Works and Utilities  
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### **Engineering Contract**

Master Services Agreement for  
Salt Flats Levee Certification, Phase 2

### **CAPTION:**

Motion authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute Master Services Agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Corpus Christi, Texas in the amount of \$650,000 for the Salt Flats Levee System Certification, Phase 2 for a range of professional services related to the Flood Insurance Rate Map.

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain authority to execute a Master Services Agreement with HDR Engineering for the Salt Flats Levee System Certification, Phase 2. The contract provides professional engineering support in order to identify and correct deficiencies in the Downtown flood protection system and to engage with FEMA in order to minimize the impacts from the new flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs).

### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

Downtown Corpus Christi is protected by a flood protection system consisting of eight elements: the Salt Flats Levee, Port Authority Wharf, the Promenade, Museum

Floodwall, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Bulkhead, South Art Museum, Barge Dock and City Seawall, as well as two storm water pump stations located at Kinney Street and Power Street. According to 1985 Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the City's downtown area is shown as largely protected by the flood protection system and the Flood Zone was categorized as a Zone B in which flood insurance and substantial finished floor elevation above grade is not mandatory.

In April 2012, the FEMA released draft FIRMs for Nueces County. The draft FIRMs showed that the City's Flood Protection System was de-accredited and the downtown area was regarded as a Zone AO with flood depths 2 to 3 feet. The draft FIRM has not been formally in effect; however, the updated downtown area of Zone AO would make the flood insurance mandatory for federally backed mortgages and require additional finished floor elevation for new development.

The City signed a Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL) agreement with FEMA in May 2012 which was a temporary solution intended to allow levee owners 24 months to collect certification documents ensuring the functionality of levee system. In order to more precisely reflect the level of flood hazard reduction that levee systems can provide, FEMA developed a new Levee Analysis Mapping Procedure (LAMP) approach in 2013. Nueces County was selected as one of 25 pilot projects across the U.S. to demonstrate the LAMP approach which superseded the PAL agreement.

In November of 2013, the City administratively awarded a small AE contract to HDR Engineering, Inc. to provide the analysis of the existing flood protection system, design of improvements to correct deficiencies and provide certification documents necessary to meet regulatory requirements; however, there are many unknowns since the regulatory framework was rapidly evolving. As a result of the unknowns, Capital Programs has not been able to finalize a distinct scope of work for the City's AE contract with HDR Engineering to support the FEMA LAMP process.

In response to this situation, Capital Programs proposes a Master Service Agreement with HDR Engineering to provide the professional engineering services required to support the FEMA LAMP Process. A Master Services Agreement (MSA) is a contract that details the most agreed terms and conditions that will govern future specific agreement. The MSA allows the City to individually award Task Orders for discrete scopes of work. The total AE contract fee will be limited to the not to exceed amount of the MSA contract.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Authorize the execution of the engineering contract.
2. Do not authorize the execution of the engineering contract. (Not Recommended)

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

On Monday, June 15, 2015, this contract was presented to the Corpus Christi Business and Job Development Corporation (Type A Board) for their review and approval. The

board unanimously approved the item and recommended City Council approval. Funds for this project have been previously appropriated through the FY 2015 Public Health & Safety Capital Improvement Program Budget.

**CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:**

Conforms to City Fiscal Policy

**EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:**

Non-Emergency

**DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:**

Utilities Department

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Operating       Revenue       Capital       Not applicable

<b>Fiscal Year 2014-2015</b>	<b>Project to Date Expenditures</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Future Years</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
Line Item Budget		\$4,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$7,000,000
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This Item (HDR)		650,000		650,000
Future Anticipated Expenditures This Project		16,000		
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$3,334,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,334,000</b>

Fund(s): Public Health and Safety

**Comments:** The agreement will result in the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$650,000.00 for HDR Engineering, Inc.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Staff recommends approval of a Master Services Agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Corpus Christi, Texas in the amount of \$650,000 for the Master Services Agreement for Salt Flats Levee System Certification, Phase 2.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Project Budget  
Location Map  
Contract  
Presentation