



**CITY OF LODI
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

AGENDA TITLE: Approve Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids for Traffic Signal Preventive Maintenance and Repair Program, Fiscal Year 2006/07
MEETING DATE: September 6, 2006
PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council approve the specifications for the above project and authorize advertisement for bids.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The project includes providing preventive maintenance and repair services for the forty-seven City-maintained traffic signal and lighting systems. The specifications require the contractor to provide signal maintenance inspections at 120-day intervals and annually test the traffic monitors.

Currently, a City electrician repairs the traffic signal systems. However, he is unable to provide the ongoing preventive maintenance, due to the number of systems he maintains and other duties. The preventive maintenance is intended to ensure the traffic signal systems are reliable and reduce both equipment failures and the City's exposure to liability claims. The specifications are on file in the Public Works Department.

For the first time, in FY 2005/06, the Public Works Department pared down the maintenance program to 120-day inspections. The current maintenance contract ends in mid-October 2006. Most agencies provide 90-day maintenance inspections due to the complexity of today's signal equipment. However, we did not experience any problems with the reduced number of inspections. The estimated cost difference between 90-day and 120-day inspections is \$6,000. The program was successful, and for each inspection, the contractor provided a list of items for repair that were subsequently performed by the City's electricians. Staff recommends continuing inspections of the traffic signal equipment at 120-day intervals.

Since June 2006, the Public Works Department has been operating with one electrician. Typically, two electricians share the signal maintenance work. At the Council meeting to award the project, staff will include appropriating additional funds for unforeseen repairs if the City's electrician is unable to perform all the work. The project specifications include a bid item for unscheduled repair work. At this time, we have not determined if we will be filling the electrician vacancy or restructuring how we provide electrical maintenance.

In addition, with the award, staff will recommend the City Manager be authorized to extend the contract for one year if it is mutually agreed upon by both parties and advantageous to the City.

FISCAL IMPACT: Staff will annually request funding for this program.

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Funds have been approved in the 2006/07 Financial Plan and Budget.
 Project Estimate: \$40,000
 Planned Bid Opening Date: September 27, 2006

for
 Richard Q. Prima, Jr.
 Public Works Director

Prepared by Paula Fernandez, Senior Traffic Engineer

RCP/PJF/pmf

cc: City Attorney
 City Engineer
 Purchasing Officer

Street Superintendent
 Assistant Street Superintendent

Technical Services Manager Kerekes
 Senior Traffic Engineer

APPROVED:
 Blair King, City Manager