



INSERT BOARD OR COMMISSION NAME

AGENDA SECTION	FOR BUSINESS
MEETING DATE	12/12/2022

ITEM:	Façade Improvement Grant Camera Installation Bid		
DEPARTMENT:	Community Development	BY/DATE:	Mitchell Forney, 11/30/2022

BACKGROUND:

The Façade Improvement Grant program's (FIGP) initial intent was to provide businesses with a means to improve their façade while also investing in the safety of the community. As part of this, the FIGP pays for the installation of exterior cameras on participating businesses. Due to the pandemic and low grant program participation, no cameras have been funded since 2019. Rather than funding one or two camera projects staff find it best to bid a handful at a time. This saves the city money with regards to completing them all at once. Approving Marco's bid includes the instillation of cameras and recording systems at all five businesses.

Of the five businesses three have applied for and received approval for their project. All but two are working on their project or have completed the project. All the businesses are listed below.

- Tasty Chicken and Pizza, 4633 Central Ave
- Matt's Automotive Service Center, 4501 Central Ave
- VFW Post 230, 4446 Central Ave
- Lowell's Auto Repair, 4457 University
- Fridley Heights Cyclery, 4755 University Ave

Height's cyclery received grant approval in 2022 but decided they no longer wanted to move forward with their project. They would still like to be considered to receive cameras. The police find this site beneficial due to its proximity to University Ave and its frontage road. In 2019 the EDA faced a similar situation with Your Exchange which is located at 4639 Central Ave. Your Exchange applied for the Façade Grant but was not approved by the EDA. The EDA still provided cameras to Your Exchange even though they did not qualify for the traditional Façade Improvement Grant.

Tasty \$5 Chicken and Pizza is in a slightly different situation than Heights Cyclery. \$5 Tasty Pizza and chicken never applied for the traditional FIGP. Instead, police were at the business responding to a call and spoke with the owner about the camera aspect of the program. The owner would like to be considered for the cameras even though they have not applied for the traditional Façade improvement grant program.

Earlier this month Community Development Staff reached out to five businesses with a request for proposals letter. As part of the RFP process police department and IT staff conducted a site walkthrough with prospective companies to ensure everyone was on the same page. Of the five businesses invited, three attended the walk through. As of 11/30/22, five days after the requested bid by date staff had only received one bid. The bid from Marco (attachment 1) totals \$41,353.31 and covers all the businesses as outlined in attachment 2.

Each year the EDA allocates \$50,000 to the Façade Improvement Grant Program. So far this year the program has issued or is in the process of issuing five grants. Coming to a total of \$22,285.05 spent. If the EDA Chooses

to approve the full bid of \$41,353.31. It will put the grant program over its 2022 budget by \$13,638.36. This option is allowable since cameras have not been purchased since the 2019 iteration of the program, creating a surplus of funds in recent years. The EDA has plenty of reserves from the FIGP fund to cover the difference. The bid was processed for each individual business. Allowing the EDA to pick and choose the locations it would like to prioritize if the EDA would like to stay below its 2022 budgeted amount.

Community development staff recommend approving Marco's camera bid in full. The cameras at each of these businesses meet the intent of the program. Staff also recommend approving all the businesses. The EDA has the money necessary and has not had to purchase cameras for three years. Though \$5 pizza did not apply for the grant program staff believe adding cameras to this location will assist in making the Central Ave Corridor a safer place. With no language in the program stating they are not eligible the decision falls to the EDA.

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):

MOTION: Move to accept the proposal from Marco, in the amount of \$41,353.31, for the installation of security cameras and recording devices; and furthermore, to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement for the same.

MOTION: Move to accept the form and substance of the Business Licensing Agreement and to authorize the executive director to enter into said agreements with Tasty Chicken and Pizza, Matts's Automotive, Lowell's Auto Repair, Fridley Heights Cyclery, and VFW Post 230.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Marco Camera's Bid**
- 2. Façade Camera Locations**
- 3. Business Licensing Agreement**