



## CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

**DEPARTMENT:** Public Utilities

**DATE:** October 22, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Motion to approve the Cooper City Final Landscape Master Plan and Final Design Guidelines – Chen Moore and Associates, Inc. – **Utilities**

### **CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Manager recommends the Commission approve the Cooper City (“City”) Final Landscape Master Plan- Final Design Guidelines - Chen Moore and Associates, Inc. (“Chen Moore”) to be used for all Citywide Projects.

### **BACKGROUND OF ITEM:**

On August 2, 2022, the City entered into a lump-sum landscape architecture agreement with Chen Moore and Associates, Inc. for \$92,241.00 to develop the City’s Landscape Master Plan and Design Guidelines. This scope of services outlines a comprehensive public engagement and design process consisting of three key phases: 1) Public Engagement, including stakeholder interviews and public workshops, both in-person and virtual, and presenting Preliminary and Final Landscape Master Plans to the City Commission; 2) Preliminary Landscape Master Plan and Branding, where CMA will create landscape branding options and site-specific designs for public spaces based on input from the City and residents; and 3) Final Landscape Master Plan and Branding, which will refine the designs into a Final Design Guidelines Manual (FDGM) covering aesthetic improvements such as landscape, hardscape, lighting, and signage, along with cost estimates and prioritization for future capital improvements.

Chen Moore has estimated that the Capital Improvement Budget for the first three years is \$51,462,831, followed by \$19,854,223 for years four to six and \$8,744,792 for years seven to ten, based on an analysis of potential improvements for a total of approximately \$80 million.

As staff reviewed the consultant’s recommendation, we determined that the proposed level of investment was not realistic at this point. Therefore, our recommendations remove the following items:

1. Based on a field assessment of twenty-eight key monument sites, rights-of-way (ROWs), and intersections, staff recommends prioritizing the replacement or installation of approximately 26 signs throughout the city, with an estimated cost of \$936,000, as this will provide the most immediate impact.

2. Differed all lighting improvement until the road or park is being re-designed (\$16,563,160).
3. Differed all barrier wall projects (\$14,915,000)
4. The contractor proposed \$31 million in landscaping, which essentially assumes a complete replacement of most of our canopy; however, I believe that the existing canopy mainly needs better maintenance, and we can start by allocating \$2 million to fill in gaps in trees and hedges and add color to the intersections.

Because of the above changes, the program would be scaled down to approximately \$8 million, of which the City has already programmed \$1.5 million.

**ANALYSIS:**

A landscape master plan is essential for creating cohesive, well-designed public spaces that enhance a community's aesthetic, environmental, and social value. It provides a long-term vision and clear guidelines for consistent development, ensuring that improvements align with the community's identity and needs. Additionally, it helps prioritize projects, manage resources effectively, and secure funding by outlining cost estimates and phased implementation.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This item supports the 2022-2027 Commission Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

**Priority 4, Citywide Revitalization** - Maintain and improve the city's infrastructure and appearance to support and ensure a sustainable and beautiful environment:

- **Objective 1:** Revitalize and enhance the physical appearance of targeted areas, including the City's major arteries and monument signs.
- **Performance Measures:** Landscaping is rejuvenated and restored to the original site development plans.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Ex.1 – Cooper City Final Landscape Master Plan 2024-10-04
2. Ex.2 – Cooper City Final Design Guidelines Manual
3. Ex.3 – Chen Moore Revised Signed Agreement
4. Ex.4 – Chen Moore – Capital Improvement Priority Chart
5. Ex.5 – Staff's Priority Chart