



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 5/14/2024

REQUESTER: Paul D'Andrea, Capital Projects Engineer

PRESENTER: Scott Sturtz, Interim Public Works Director

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF AMENDMENT ONE TO CONTRACT K-1920-116: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN AND COWAN GROUP ENGINEERING, INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$76,415 FOR A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$603,015 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE JAMES GARNER-ACRES STREET TO DUFFY STREET 2019 BOND PROJECT.

BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a \$72 million transportation bond issue, which includes nineteen (19) projects. With the anticipated \$67 million in federal transportation grant funds being leveraged for these projects, approximately \$139 million is budgeted for the nineteen (19) projects.

On August 19, 2019, City staff advertised Request for Proposal RFP 1920-16 to solicit Consulting Engineering Services for the fourteen (14) bond projects still requiring design. This RFP was written to select a group of consultants to complete the design on the remaining 2019 Transportation Bond Projects that will be completed over the next ten (10) years. Twenty-two (22) proposals were received by the 4:00 pm deadline on September 12, 2019. The selection committee consisting of three (3) City staff (Scott Sturtz- City Engineer, Tim Miles-Capital Projects Engineer and Paul D'Andrea- Capital Projects Engineer) and two (2) citizens (Luis Malave- ODOT Purcell Resident Engineer and Brent Everett- OU Assistant Director of Architectural & Engineering Services) shortlisted nine (9) consultant teams for interviews held on October 2, 2019. Five (5) consultant teams were selected after interviews to complete the design on the first set of projects:

Cabbiness Engineering, Norman
Cowan Group, Oklahoma City
Freese and Nichols, Oklahoma City
MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
Olsson Associates, Oklahoma City

These consultants were assigned the various projects by City staff based on capacity, performance on their current projects and capabilities of their firm to complete a specific project. An additional selection process for professional services may be needed in the future if these five firms are not able to complete the program to the City's expectations.

On April 25, 2020 the City Council approved Contract K-1920-116, with Cowan Group Engineering, in the amount of \$526,600 for design of the James Garner-Acres Street to Duffy Street 2019 Bond Project.

DISCUSSION:

After the James Garner-Acres Street to Duffy Street project had reached its 60% design phase, the City requested changes to the project scope, based on requests from public interest groups and the City Council. Simultaneously, the City began to see drastic increases in bid prices for roadway construction due to changes in the market resulting from price increases for goods and services. Because of these two factors when the project construction cost estimates were updated for these changes, it was evident that the project would exceed the construction budget.

In response, staff requested that Cowan Group, suggest ways to reduce the construction cost while still fulfilling the requested project scope. Cowan Group prepared a list of several cost-cutting measures that could be implemented in the design. Staff reviewed the suggestions and approved several of the changes that would result in a projected construction savings of approximately \$500,000.

The requested scope changes in conjunction with the chosen cost-saving design measures, required additional survey and extensive revisions to the plans beyond what would be considered normal after the 60% design phase. For this reason, Cowan Group Engineering has requested Amendment No. 1 to the design contract (K-1920-116) in the amount of \$76,415.00, as compensation for the changes in design scope and time required for the plan revisions.

Funds to cover this amendment are available in the project Design Account (Account 50594019-46201, Project BP0419)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Amendment 1 to Contract K-1920-116 between the City of Norman, OK and Cowan Group Engineering, in the amount of \$76,415, to provide additional design services utilizing funds from the James Garner-Acres Street to Duffy Street 2019 Bond Project (Account 50594019-46201; Project BP0419).