

April 3, 2017

## **CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

### **SUBJECT**

Resolution authorizing execution of a General Services contract with Pacific Studio, for fabrication, delivery, and installation of the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center Interpretive Exhibits, in an amount not to exceed \$105,918 plus applicable taxes.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

This contract will obligate the City to an amount up to \$105,918 plus applicable taxes. This project is planned and funded through the 2017 Renovation & Refurbishment Plan (CIP P-R-11). There are sufficient funds budgeted to complete this project.

### **STAFF CONTACTS**

Dustin Van Nieulande, MSEEC Environmental Programs Coordinator, 452-2565  
Geoff Bradley, Environmental Programs Supervisor, 452-2740  
*Department of Parks and Community Services*

### **POLICY CONSIDERATION**

Comprehensive Plan:

POLICY PA-40. Provide a nature interpretation program to increase the community's awareness, understanding, and appreciation of natural areas.

POLICY PA-36. Provide opportunities for individuals to develop a sense of community through services and programs.

Bellevue City Code:

City purchases in excess of \$90,000 require Council approval.

### **BACKGROUND**

Wetlands are vital urban ecosystems and the Mercer Slough is the largest remaining freshwater wetland contiguous to Lake Washington. Community education is integral to the stewardship of urban natural systems. The Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (MSEEC) is the region's premier facility helping to educate the public on the importance of freshwater ecosystems and receives over 20,000 annual visitors. To help increase public awareness, understanding, and appreciation for wetland functions and values, and create a sense of wonder for the Mercer Slough, staff proposes to contract with Pacific Studio to design and fabricate three interpretive exhibits to be installed inside the MSEEC visitor center.

Pacific Studio was selected to provide the initial conceptual design submittal for interpretive exhibits for the MSEEC. After selection of a preferred concept, Pacific Studio then provided the basic design and development sketches for the project. The unique design will create free-standing, movable exhibits that combine various interactive features such as photo flipboards, magnification, and textile elements that engage multiple senses to augment the learning experience.

The exhibits will instill visitors with a better understanding and appreciation of Bellevue's natural

resources through creative, interactive displays that enhance an understanding of ecological principals. Visitors will leave knowing their actions directly affect the health of urban ecosystems.

### **Scope of Work**

The scope of work for this contract includes final design, development of interactives, fabrication, delivery, and installation of three double-sided interpretive exhibits inside the MSEEC Visitor's Center. Installation is scheduled to be completed in 2018.

### **Contractor Selection**

Pacific Studio is a local, award-winning, full service exhibit design and fabrication company with an impressive resume. Examples of local exhibits include the Orangutan Exhibit (Woodland Park Zoo); Dinosaurs Journey through Time (Pacific Science Center); and Space (Museum of Flight). After reviewing the company's background, references, and previous projects, staff believes that Pacific Studio is exceptionally qualified to fabricate and build the MSEEC Interpretive Exhibits. Because of the nature of the project and contract scope, a Competitive Exception has been approved by Finance.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

If approved, this Resolution becomes effective immediately upon Council adoption.

### **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of a General Services contract with Pacific Studio, for fabrication, delivery, and installation of the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center Interpretive Exhibits, in an amount not to exceed \$105,918 plus applicable taxes.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1

### **MOTION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9249 authorizing execution of a General Services contract with Pacific Studio, for fabrication, delivery, and installation of the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center Interpretive Exhibits, in an amount not to exceed \$105,918 plus applicable taxes.

### **ATTACHMENT**

Proposed Resolution No. 9249

### **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY**

- A. Contract
- B. Design and Development Sketches
- C. Competitive Exception Form