

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT**

Resolution authorizing execution of the professional services agreement with MIG/SvR, in the amount of \$149,799, plus all applicable taxes, to develop and lead the public involvement process to engage the Eastgate area near Tyee Middle School and 119th Avenue SE in Newport Hills areas in helping choose the preferred alternative to improve traffic safety in the neighborhood and also to develop construction Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) of the preferred alternatives.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

This action will obligate the City for up to \$149,799 in consulting services. This agreement will be fully funded through the Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Levy (CIP Plan PW-R-199) and Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (CIP Plan PW-M-7). The cost breakdown below is an estimate only because specific project alternatives have yet to be determined and the public involvement to choose the proposed plan is part of this contract.

<b>CIP Plan No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Total</b>
PW-R-199	Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Levy	\$ 89,880
PW-M-7	Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program	\$ 59,919
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$149,799</b>

Sufficient funds exist in the 2017-2023 Capital Investment Program (CIP) budget (CIP Plan Nos. PW-R-199 and PW-M-7) to fully fund this contract.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

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Karen Gonzalez, Neighborhood Services Traffic Safety Services Manager, 452-4598

*Transportation Department*

**POLICY CONSIDERATION**

Comprehensive Plan:

*Neighborhood Protection*

- **Policy TR – 148.** Involve affected neighborhoods and other interested citizens in the planning and design of transportation system improvements.
- **Policy TR – 150.** Monitor traffic volume on residential streets and establish appropriate traffic control measures with residents’ concurrence.
- **Policy TR – 151.** Balance the needs of all roadway users when designing and building neighborhood traffic safety projects.
- **Policy TR – 152.** Design or retrofit residential streets to discourage cut-through traffic, while providing for connectivity.
- **Policy TR – 153.** Employ traffic calming measures to slow vehicular travel speed along residential streets and to reduce the volume of cut-through traffic.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Bellevue's Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services (NTSS) group responds to citizen inquiries about traffic safety, pedestrian safety, school safety, neighborhood parking issues and traffic calming efforts in Bellevue's neighborhoods. Through a variety of programs, staff work to address these concerns and to recommend and implement work plans.

The focus areas for this contract are the vicinity of Tyee Middle School in Eastgate and 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE in Newport Hills. These two projects have the commitment from the City to address traffic safety issues. Success will be dependent on what physical measures get proposed and the public engagement in the neighborhood. Both projects have existing traffic calming physical measures, are on neighborhood collector streets, and are affected by school pick up and drop off traffic issues for people walking, driving, and taking transit.

### **Eastgate Area near Tyee Middle School**

This focus area generally includes the following streets:

- 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 136<sup>th</sup> Place SE, from Allen Road to SE 37<sup>th</sup> Street
- SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street, from 136<sup>th</sup> Place SE to 146<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE
- 146<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, from SE 42<sup>nd</sup> Place to SE 37<sup>th</sup> Street

In 2016, a traffic improvement project to address speeding around Tyee Middle School and cut-through traffic installed three speed cushions on 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and one on 136<sup>th</sup> Place SE near the City of Bellevue Eastgate maintenance yard. A temporary traffic circle was installed at the intersection of 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street. This work will evaluate the interim improvements and will determine what permanent physical measures should be installed.

As part of this project, a safer walking facility on the west side of 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE between SE Allen Road and SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street will be installed. This is to help facilitate the pick-up and drop-off that occurs as well as increase visibility and safety of children getting to and from school. This project will also identify locations and install school flashing beacons signage for Tyee Middle School.

146<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street are streets that have also received concerns regarding cut-through traffic and the safety of people walking and crossing the street. This project would engage the neighborhood residents to identify key locations for improvements and support proposed traffic improvements along these corridors.

### **119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, within the vicinity of Newport Elementary School**

The other project focus area is 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE north of SE 56<sup>th</sup> Street. Newport Elementary is located just north of SE 56<sup>th</sup> Street and has a mid-block crosswalk near the southern driveway for the front parking lot. To help manage traffic speeds, at-grade colored pavement medians were installed along the frontage of the school and there are existing speed radar feedback signs and school zone flashing beacon signs for both directions of traffic on 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Even with these existing physical measures, there have been multiple concerns received by Newport Hills' residents about the amount of cut-through traffic on 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and visibility at crosswalks. This project would help the neighborhood identify which locations need additional traffic safety measures, such as the intersection of Lake Heights Street and 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, and work collaboratively with the neighborhood to think creatively about what could address the neighborhood's concerns.

With neighborhood traffic issues becoming more complex in a city that is growing with multiple priorities, the method of how NTSS addresses these issues and carries out project-specific public involvement plans has evolved. The issues are not simply just calming traffic for speeding or pedestrian safety issues, there is need to balance prioritization factors of speed and volume data, walkability, collision history, and proximity to pedestrian activity generators with neighborhood and political expectations.

In accordance with the City's contracting policies and state law, an advertisement was published in the Seattle Times and the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce in March to solicit qualified firms or teams to lead the public involvement process and development of the traffic improvement plans for the two project focus areas. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) resulted in a list of 4 qualified teams:

- MIG/SvR
- The Toole Group
- Transpo Group
- SCJ Alliance

Staff evaluated the RFQ submittals and selected the top two teams for interviews. The selection criteria used for evaluating each firm during the interviews included:

- Proposal Presentation
- Key personnel, past performance of similar plans and/or implemented projects
- Understanding of project requirements demonstrated by Project Approach
- Interviews

MIG/SvR was selected as the most qualified firm because their team displayed the best understanding of our project needs. Their approach utilized their team's expertise in addressing complex needs of past clients and managing the expectations of similar neighborhoods while adhering to project parameters such as time and budget.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

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

### **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of the professional services agreement with MIG/SvR, in the amount of \$149,799, plus all applicable taxes, to develop and lead the public involvement process to engage the Eastgate area near Tyee Middle School and 119th Avenue SE in Newport Hills areas in helping choose the preferred alternative to improve traffic safety in the neighborhood and also to develop construction Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) of the preferred alternatives.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1

### **MOTION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9278 authorizing execution of the professional services agreement with MIG/SvR, in the amount of \$149,799, plus all applicable taxes, to develop and lead the public involvement process to engage the Eastgate area near Tyee Middle School and 119th Avenue SE in

Newport Hills areas in helping choose the preferred alternative to improve traffic safety in the neighborhood and also to develop construction Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) of the preferred alternatives.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Vicinity Map – Eastgate
  - B. Vicinity Map - Newport
  - C. CIP Project Description - PW-R-199
  - D. CIP Project Description - PW-R-7)
- Proposed Resolution No. 9278

**AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY**

Contracts