

October 16, 2017

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT

Resolution authorizing execution of a professional services agreement with Toole Design Group, in the amount of \$100,037.28, plus all applicable taxes, to support a public involvement process with the Northtowne Community to develop a preferred design alternative for 100th Avenue NE, between NE 12th and NE 24th Streets and other priority streets in the vicinity to create a “complete streets” network that is safe and accessible for people of all ages, no matter their mode of travel.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action will obligate the City for up to \$100,037.28 in consulting services. Sufficient funds exist in the 2017-2023 Capital Investment Program budget (CIP Plan No. PW-R-199) Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Levy to fully fund this contract.

STAFF CONTACTS

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Transportation Department

POLICY CONSIDERATION

Comprehensive Plan:

Neighborhood Protection

- **Policy TR – 21.** Ensure that the transportation system infrastructure in Bellevue provides mobility options for all modes, and accommodates the mobility needs of everyone, including underserved populations.
- **Policy TR – 23.** Coordinate improvements and operations among travel modes and provide connections between modes.
- **Policy TR – 24.** Incorporate pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements into roadway projects in accordance with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan.
- **Policy TR – 26.** Increase system connectivity for all modes by providing for roadway, pedestrian, and bicycling connections in newly developing and redeveloping areas.
- **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 – 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 Transportation Department staff responds to citizen concerns about traffic safety, pedestrian/bicycle safety, school walk route safety, and neighborhood parking issues in Bellevue's neighborhoods. Through a variety of programs, staff work to address these concerns and to recommend and implement work plans. With neighborhood traffic issues becoming more complex in a city that is growing with multiple priorities, the method of how the Transportation Department addresses these issues and carries out project-specific public involvement plans is evolving. Projects that only implement traffic calming for speeding, or sidewalks for pedestrian safety are rare, as there is now need to balance multiple issues and concerns such as vehicle speeds, traffic volumes, walkability, collision history, and proximity to pedestrian activity generators with neighborhood expectations. Accordingly, we strive to implement "complete streets" improvements, to enable safe use of the roadway for people of all ages no matter their mode of travel.

The Transportation Department has heard concerns and requests to address issues with pedestrian safety, vehicles speeds, parking, etc. from Northtowne residents for many years. Not only is 100th Avenue NE a priority critical link connecting the Downtown with neighborhoods, churches, four schools and the NW Arts Center, but is also a main emergency response route for the Fire Department. Both 100th Avenue NE, north of NE 14th Street, and NE 18th Street, between 98th Avenue NE and 100th Avenue NE, are on the backlog list for sidewalk funding through the Neighborhood Sidewalks Program. Bikeway improvements are also recommended for 100th Avenue NE through the 2009 Ped/Bike Plan. However, funds have not been available for major improvements in the past. Minor improvements, such as the installation of temporary traffic circles, radar signs, partial segments of sidewalk, ADA compliant curb ramps, and 25 MPH pavement markings have been installed. However, concerns with speeds and pedestrian safety continue as demonstrated by a petition signed by 139 residents, which was sent to Council in Fall 2016 requesting "a project to study and enhance the crosswalks on 100th Avenue NE, between NE 14th and NE 24th Streets in order to improve pedestrian safety for our citizens, particularly children walking to and from school."

Developed to address these community concerns, this project, currently funded at \$1,000,000 through the Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy, has a primary focus area of 100th Avenue NE, between NE 12th and NE 24th Streets. With the consultant, staff will be working with the public to also review priority side streets between 98th Avenue NE and Bellevue Way NE for school traffic (car, bike, bus, pedestrian) circulation.

With the specific focus on school children, the City is committed to addressing traffic/pedestrian safety issues, which will be identified in the robust public process developed and implemented by the consultant. Some of the improvements that may be considered as a part of this project include traffic calming, school zone improvements, walkway improvements, natural drainage practices to manage stormwater, and/or other improvements to meet the goals of improving safety and the environment for all people walking, and using transit on 100th Avenue NE and priority side streets. Considerations will also be given to facilities that enhance the bicycling environment as the entire 100th Avenue NE corridor is intended to provide important and low traffic-stress bicycle connections for recreational and commute trips.

Transportation Department staff sought qualified consultants or consulting teams to submit qualifications to engage the community and key stakeholders in the comprehensive planning to develop a Complete Streets vision for the 100th Avenue NE, south of NE 24th Street and key streets in the

vicinity, detailed project scope of work and plans to 10 percent design. 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 August 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 four qualified teams:

1. Broadview Planning
2. MIG/SvR
3. Otak, Incorporated
4. Toole Design Group

Staff evaluated the RFQ submittals using selection criteria for evaluating each firm's proposal, such as:

- Understanding of the project context, timeline, and scope of work
- Qualifications, experience, and expertise of project manager and other key personnel
- Relevance of experience of key staff
- Overall quality, clarity, responsiveness and completeness of the submittal

Toole Design Group (TDG) was selected as the most qualified firm, as they assembled a team tailored to best meet the project needs. In addition, TDG specializes in cross-cultural outreach and has extensive multimodal planning experience in managing Complete Streets projects 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 a professional services agreement with Toole Design Group, in the amount of \$100,037.28, plus all applicable taxes, to support a public involvement process with the Northtowne Community to develop a preferred design alternative for 100th Avenue NE, between NE 12th and NE 24th Streets and other priority streets in the vicinity to create a "complete streets" network that is safe and accessible for people of all ages, no matter their mode of travel.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

RECOMMENDATION

Option 1

MOTION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9319 authorizing execution of a professional services agreement with Toole Design Group, in the amount of \$100,037.28, plus all applicable taxes, to support a public involvement process with the Northtowne Community to develop a preferred design alternative for 100th Avenue NE, between NE 12th and NE 24th Streets and other priority streets in the vicinity to create a "complete streets" network that is safe and accessible for people of all ages, no matter their mode of travel.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Vicinity Map

B. CIP Project Description (PW-R-199)

Proposed Resolution No. 9319

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY

Contracts