



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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April 12, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize City Manager to enter into an agreement with URS Corporation, in the amount of \$250,000, to provide groundwater monitoring and remediation assessment services for the Tree Farm, Fire Station 7, Fire Station 10, Fire Station 11 and Fire Station 17 fuel site locations for a term of one year, with options for two additional one-year periods; authorize amendments to exercise the City's option to renew where noted; and authorize the City Manager to execute same (Districts 4, 5, 6 and 8).

**DISCUSSION**

In 1994, it was determined that five fuel sites located throughout the City were contaminating the groundwater table. At that time, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB) opened cases for each site and the City became responsible for water testing and reporting to CRWQCB on a quarterly basis, as well as for a plan to resolve the contamination. The testing process and CRWQCB reporting requirements are complex in nature and require technical expertise; therefore, the City has contracted with various outside engineering firms to perform these services over the years.

The primary engineer representing the City on these cases generally from 1994 through present has been J.R. Morabito, P.E. Mr. Morabito has generated a positive momentum in the resolution of these cases and currently works for URS Corporation. The City contracted with URS Corporation in April 2002 to provide the groundwater testing and reporting services for the five City underground storage tanks. Over the past three years, URS has worked with the local CRWQCB on behalf of the City to negotiate deadline extensions and a plan of action for the remediation and eventual closure of the cases. This included a waiver of several testing requirements in 2003. This negotiation saved the City up to \$60,000 in that year.

At present, a contract in the amount of \$250,000 with URS Corporation is required to proceed with the implementation of the CRWQCB-approved plan for calendar year 2005. Additional testing and reporting expenses are expected through 2009 to fully resolve these cases. Due to the institutional knowledge that URS Corporation has

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acquired over the years and their relationship with CRWQCB on the City's cases, it is requested to enter into a new contract with URS.

If the City fails to comply with CRWQCB testing and reporting requirements, the board may assess civil liability penalties, resulting in fines up to \$1,000 per day per site pursuant to Section 13268 of the California Water Code. The affected sites are located at:

- Tree Farm – 7600 E. Spring Street
- Fire Station No. 7 – 2295 Elm Street
- Fire Station No. 10 – 1417 Peterson Avenue
- Fire Station No. 11 – 160 E. Market Street
- Fire Station No. 17 – 2241 – 2247 Argonne Avenue

This matter was reviewed by Senior Deputy City Attorney Donna F. Gwin on March 22, 2005 and by Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on March 31, 2005.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council authorization to enter into a contract with URS is requested to allow CWRQCB quarterly groundwater testing and reporting requirements to be met and avoid civil liability penalties that may be imposed for non-compliance. The contract will be approved for a period of one year from January 28, 2005 through January 27, 2006, with options for two additional one-year periods.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the contract, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, is budgeted in the Fleet Services Fund (IS 386) and Department of Public Works (PW).

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



CHRISTINE F. ANDERSEN  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER