



CITY OF LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-5237 FAX (562) 570-6068

May 14, 2013

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to accept award and execute all necessary documents with the California Department of Conservation relating to a \$929,000 grant awarded to the Department of Development Services for professional planning services to prepare a new development code for the Southeast Area Development and Improvement Plan planning area, also known as SEADIP, and to commit matching funds not to exceed \$299,000 for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) related to the contemplated SEADIP amendments;

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with The Planning Center/DC&E for an amount not to exceed \$1,228,000 to prepare the new development code for SEADIP and the accompanying Environmental Impact Report; and

Increase appropriations in the General Grants Fund (SR 120) in the Department of Development Services (DV) by \$929,000. (District 3)

DISCUSSION

The Strategic Growth Council of the California Department of Conservation has awarded the City of Long Beach a grant under its Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentive Program. This grant program is intended to assist local governments meet the challenges of adopting land use plans and integrating strategies to transform communities and create long-term prosperity. The primary goal of this program is to develop and implement plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with AB 32 and SB 375, and achieve the following program objectives: improve air and water quality; promote public health; promote equity; increase housing affordability; promote infill and compact development; revitalize urban and community centers; protect natural resources; reduce automobile usage and fuel consumption; improve infrastructure systems; promote water conservation; promote energy efficiency and conservation; and strengthen the economy.

In order to proceed with acceptance of this grant, the City was required to select a consultant and negotiate a scope of services consistent with the grant requirements. As such, staff released a comprehensive Request for Proposals (RFP) in early 2013. The RFP proposal yielded many competitive proposals, and after review and interviews, staff

recommends the selection of The Planning Center/DC&E. As land use and environmental planning specialists, The Planning Center/DC&E has assembled a team of experts to assist staff in a comprehensive community outreach effort and to prepare planning and land use studies for the SEADIP planning area, a 1,500-acre portion of eastern Long Beach. Specifically, this project will require the preparation of a Specific Plan for revisions to the SEADIP zoning text and an amendment to the City's Local Coastal Program (LCP).

The overall project approach will be to refine and implement the perspectives of a wide range of stakeholder groups that include property owners, businesses, residents, and interested parties. It is expected that the revisions to SEADIP and the LCP resulting from this Specific Plan will require significant engagement with the community about environmental, land use, mobility, and economic strategies; will refine and implement the community's vision; identify expectations and locations for infill development; identify proactive strategies to preserve wetlands resources; and reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gases.

City Council authorization is required to execute the contracts with the California Department of Conservation and The Planning Center/DC&E and to accept these planning services. It is expected that the work program will kick off within 60 days of execution of all necessary documents. The consultant has identified a dedicated project manager to provide hands-on management throughout the entire process to ensure timely completion of the planning effort.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael Mais on April 23, 2013 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on May 3, 2013.

SUSTAINABILITY

The project will involve the adoption of sustainable development policies and programs to encourage compact development, facilitate alternative modes of transportation, and promote wetlands preservation.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on May 14, 2013, to ensure the timely completion of the Specific Plan within the period of the grant award. As stated earlier, it is expected that full project kick off would occur by mid-summer 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT

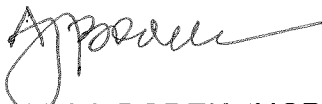
The proposed contract amount of \$1,228,000 will be funded by a grant award of \$929,000 from the Strategic Growth Council, and City matching funds of up to \$299,000 from the Development Services Fund (SR 137). The City matching funds will pay for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). An appropriation of \$929,000 for the grant award is requested in the General Grants Fund (SR 120) in the Department of Development Services (DV).

The plan will facilitate investment in commercial properties and preservation of natural resources in the SEADIP planning area, which will have a positive impact on local jobs. However, the planning study and EIR will not directly create any jobs.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY J. BODEK, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

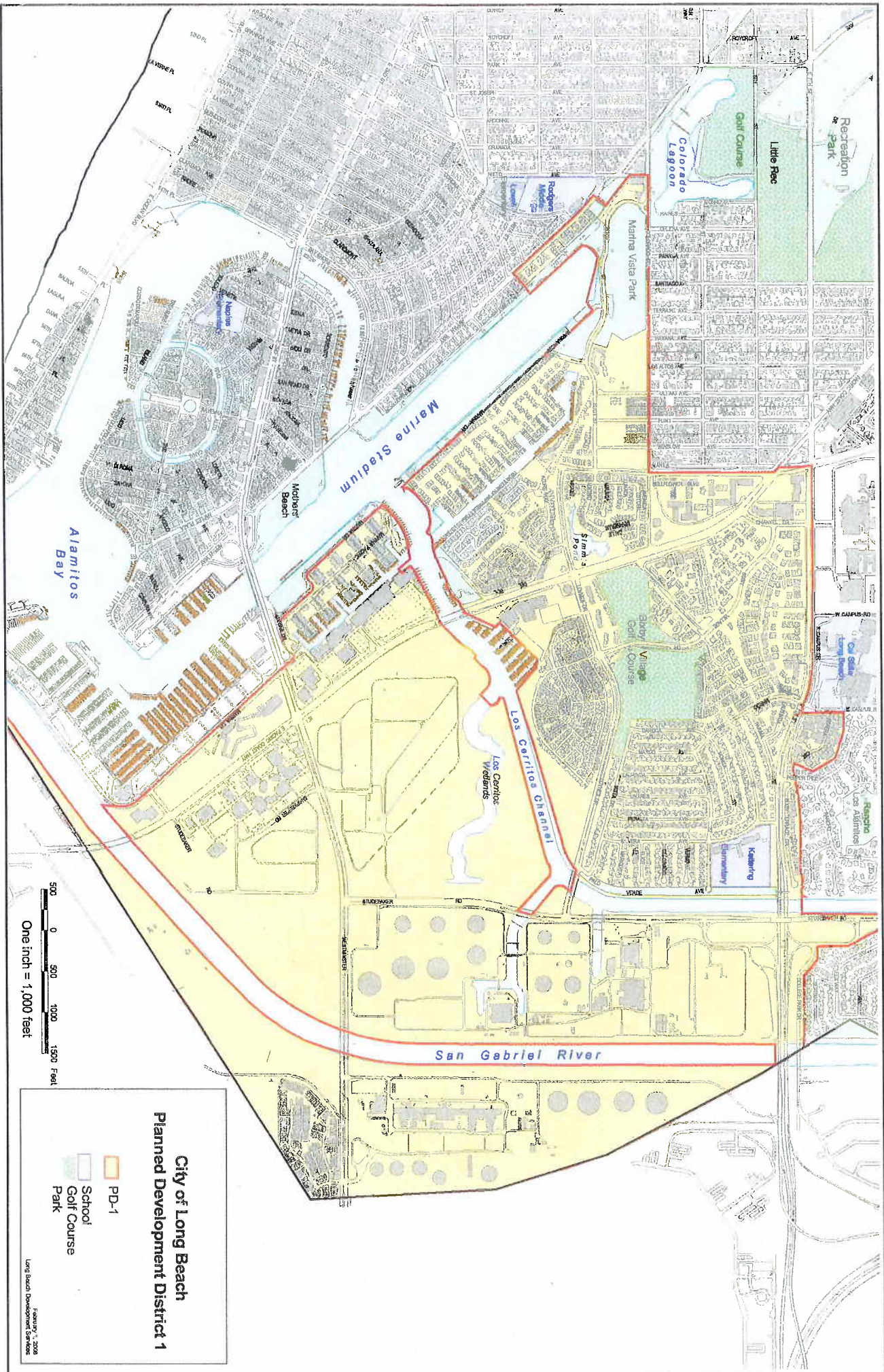
APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

AJB:DB
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Attachment: Project Area Map



500 0 500 1000 1500 Feet
 One inch = 1,000 feet

City of Long Beach
Planned Development District 1

- PD-1
- School
- Golf Course
- Park

January, 2008
 Long Beach Development Services