

SUBJECT

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance--Dock Improvements for Berth No. 3 at Alamitos Bay Landing

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation for the Board of Directors to authorize the President and CEO to enter into a contract with John S. Meek Company, Inc., of Gardena, for the fabrication and installation of a dock and gangway at Alamitos Bay Landing, Berth No. 3 for a cost not to exceed \$876,823.

BACKGROUND

In partnership with Catalina Express, Long Beach Transit launched a water taxi service with the introduction of the AquaBus and AquaLink services in 1998 and 2001, respectively. Unique for the region, the water taxi fleet consists of two 49-passenger AquaBus boats that serve the Aquarium of the Pacific, Shoreline Village, Pine Circle and the Queen Mary, and two 75-passenger AquaLink boats, which serve the Queen Mary, Aquarium of the Pacific, Belmont Pier and Alamitos Bay Landing.

LBT has been able to provide wheelchair accessibility by installing wheelchair boarding ramps or wheelchair lifts at the boat docks that meet the regulations specified by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at all of the ports except the Alamitos Bay Landing, whereby the water taxis service the stop at the public port. After detailed analysis of the area, the City of Long Beach Marine Department is recommending a move to Berth No. 3, also located at the Alamitos Bay Landing. It would be more cost effective to make this dock ADA accessible and it would also provide a permanent winter dock.

Due to cost savings upon the completion of another water taxi related project, the AquaLink 2 Vessel Project, there was \$389,088 remaining from a federal capital grant. LBT is permitted to use these remaining funds to support the AquaLink Services, thus staff started using these funds to explore the possibility of bringing the last LBT dock into ADA compliance.

PROCUREMENT

LBT hired a marine engineering and design firm, Blue Water Design Group, to prepare plans for the improvements, and issued an Invitation for Bid (IFB) on March 15, 2013. Two bids were received from local construction firms with long-standing experience in marina and dock construction projects, John S. Meek Company and Connolly-Pacific Company. Both firms have worked successfully on City of Long Beach Marina Department projects. John S. Meek Company was the low bidder at a total cost of \$762,455 versus \$999,400.

In the last few months, LBT worked with the City of Long Beach and obtained additional funds and is now ready to begin the project. John S Meek Company has agreed to retain the original pricing.

LBT staff is also requesting a 15 percent construction contingency totaling \$114,368 to accommodate any unforeseen changes, including modifying the entryway to accommodate the recent changes at Alamitos Bay Landing as well as connecting the LBT bus stop to the marina. This will bring the contract total to \$876,823, including sales tax.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

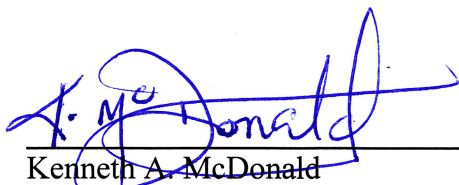
The Board may elect to have LBT continue to provide service at the public dock at Alamitos Bay Landing without making it wheelchair accessible. Staff does not consider this a viable option as it does not support LBT's policy of being ADA compliant.

A second option is to modify the public dock instead of moving to Berth No. 3. As it would require more extensive and costly upgrades to be compliant with ADA regulations, staff also does not recommend this option.

BUDGETARY/FISCAL IMPACT

This project, as a whole, is budgeted at \$1,079,088. The City of Long Beach has agreed to contribute \$687,000 from the Tidelands Oil Revenue Fund to supplement the \$389,088 currently available. The City Council approved these funds at their February 11, 2014 council meeting.

Staff is requesting authorization to enter into a contract with John S. Meek Company, Inc. for the fabrication and installation of a dock and gangway at Alamitos Bay Berth No. 3 for a cost not to exceed \$876,823.



Kenneth A. McDonald
President and Chief Executive Officer