



Building A Better Long Beach

November 15, 2010

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Westnet, Inc. for the installation of a communications and alerting system at Fire Station 12 in an amount not to exceed \$159,750. (North – District 9)

DISCUSSION

On March 15, 2010, the Redevelopment Agency (Agency) Board approved the construction contract for the new Fire Station 12 and Emergency Resource Center. These facilities will be located at 1199 East Artesia Boulevard and are being built on a 1.2-acre Agency-owned site in the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area. Construction of Fire Station 12 and Emergency Resource Center is currently under way. Due to the specialized nature of the communications and alerting system, it was not included in the construction contract.

The scope of this agreement consists of the installation of an advanced and comprehensive alerting system by Westnet, Inc. (Westnet) that will provide fire station emergency notification and response, and decrease call processing time. The system alerts the fire fighters when a call for service rings at the station and provides a visual and audio alarm informing the fire fighters of a call. This particular system is used at all City of Long Beach fire stations and is an integral part of the City's dispatch system.

The system utilizes a series of remote units placed strategically throughout the fire station to notify Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel of an emergency in the quickest, safest and most advanced means possible. These units are specifically designed to reduce response times and minimize firefighter stress levels, using "Cardiac Kind" ramped tones and a human voice pre-announcement to awaken fire fighters.

Since the Westnet system is the only alerting system utilized at all of the City's fire stations, a direct, sole-source contract was negotiated with Westnet for its installation. The proposed contract amount of \$159,750 includes a 15 percent contingency clause to cover any additional work that may become necessary during the course of construction and installation. In the event that additional work is necessary, the contract will allow the

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Executive Director to authorize contract change orders not to exceed the 15 percent contingency. Although not anticipated, any contract change orders that would exceed the 15 percent contingency will be brought before the Agency Board for further consideration.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY J. BODEK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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