

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2024

PREPARED BY: Shawn Muir, Community Services Manager
Martin Alvarez, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: AWARD CONTRACT NO. C47810 TO SUPERB ENGINEERING, INC.,
FOR THE DESERT WILLOW PERIMETER LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING
REHABILITATION PHASE 3 (PROJECT NO. CLS00001)

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Award contract no. C47810 to Superb Engineering, Inc., of Banning, California, in the amount of \$1,031,528.03, plus a \$200,000 contingency, for the Desert Willow Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Rehabilitation Phase 3.
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make necessary nonmonetary changes to the contract.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the contract and any written requests for change orders, amendments, and any other documents necessary to effectuate this action, in accordance with Section 3.30.170 of the Palm Desert Municipal Code.
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Notice of Completion (NOC) and the City Clerk to file the NOC upon satisfactory completion of the project.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Over the past several years, the landscape material on the perimeter of the Desert Willow Golf Resort has surpassed its utility. The effects of blow sand coming from undeveloped properties have changed the original perimeter grade by burying plants, cobble, and boulders along Country Club Drive, Portola Avenue, and Frank Sinatra Drive.

Phase 1 of the landscape rehabilitation project was completed on December 10, 2020, and encompassed the perimeter landscape planter on Country Club Drive from Desert Willow Drive west to the Desert Willow property boundary. Phase 2 of the project was completed on November 12, 2023, and encompassed Portola Avenue from Country Club Drive north to Frank Sinatra Drive. Privately maintained landscape is excluded from this project. Phase 3, the final phase, of this project consists of landscaping Cook Street and Frank Sinatra Drive parkway planters at the Desert Willow Golf Resort.

City staff worked with a landscape architect to develop a comprehensive design plan that includes removing unsalvageable plant material while reusing existing inorganic material, such as cobble and boulders. In addition, accent plant material, such as barrel cacti, will be salvaged and incorporated into the new design. The design also entails installing new trees, shrubs, accents, and additional inorganic material along with a refreshed landscape. A \$10,000 contingency per area was included in the bid schedule. This allows for additional planting and aggregate to be included as the project is built, and ensures the outcome is to the City's standards. Solar lighting bollards will be installed along the sidewalk to provide ambient lighting,

City of Palm Desert
Award a Contract to Superb Engineering, Inc.

which currently does not exist. This will encourage pedestrian traffic and provide a measure of safety when walking along the sidewalk in the evenings.

Phase 3 of the project was advertised for proposals through the City’s bid management portal, OpenGov, and on July 22, 2024, four proposals were received electronically.

Contractor	Location	Cost
Superb Engineering, Inc.	Banning, California	\$1,031,528.03
Marina Landscape, Inc.	Orange, California	\$1,324,471.50
Vintage Landscape	Bermuda Dunes, California	\$1,376,343.50
Urban Habitat	La Quinta, California	\$1,680,596.82

City staff reviewed the bid submissions and found that Superb Engineering, Inc. offered the lowest responsive bid. Given that Superb Engineering, Inc. is a relatively new landscape company with no prior experience working with the City, staff conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the company’s qualifications to confirm their ability to meet City standards.

Staff contacted the references supplied by Superb Engineering, Inc. and received consistently positive feedback. The references affirmed that Superb Engineering, Inc. completed projects on schedule, maintained prompt and accurate communication, and consistently met or exceeded industry standards. Details of the reference checks for projects completed by Superb Engineering, Inc. are outlined below.

References

Agency Name	Project	Amount
Temecula Valley Unified School District	Reclaimed Water System Install <i>Converting potable water system to recycled. Completion date: August 2023</i>	\$585,364
City of Coachella	Las Lunas & Calle Bougainvillea Retention Basin Landscape Improvements <i>Irrigation, landscape and rock groundcover. Completion date: October 2023</i>	\$177,039
City of Perris	Landscape Rehabilitation CDBG <i>Clearing and grubbing. Point to point irrigation conversions. Installation of turf, 30 trees, 1,018 plants and shrubs. Installation of 4,546 S.F of groundcover and 389 S.F. of ivy geranium. Maintenance period. Completion date: March 2024</i>	\$204,048
City of Maywood	Beautification <i>Landscape and tree planting in addition to irrigation Completion date: May 2024</i>	\$945,329
City of Needles	River’s Edge Golf Course <i>Installation of new irrigation services lines, permanent sprinkler heads, and timed sprinkler valves. Completion date: August 2024</i>	\$711,488

The client references gave uniformly positive feedback and for this reason, staff recommends awarding the contract to Superb Engineering, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,031,528.03. The contract amount includes \$20,000 contingency to be utilized to increase planting and aggregate features where feasible. Additionally, staff requests a separate \$200,000 contingency for any unforeseen costs.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s office.

Strategic Plan:

Parks and Recreation - Priority 1: Prepare for the financial requirements of maintaining existing parks to the highest level of service.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The approved Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list for Fiscal Year 2024-25 includes \$1,300,000 for the Desert Willow Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Rehabilitation Project under the Desert Willow Contingency/Capital Account No. 4414195-4809200. The total cost of the project is \$1,031,528.03, plus a contingency of \$200,000, for a total of \$1,231,528.03; therefore, there is no financial impact to the General Fund.

The table below reflects the total cost for all phases of the project:

<i>Project Phase</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Contract Amount</i>
<i>Landscape Design Services Phase 1 – A39360</i>	September 20, 2019	\$20,000.00
<i>DW Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Phase 1 – C39990</i>	June 25, 2020	\$218,565.00
<i>Landscape Design Services Phase 2 – A43950</i>	August 23, 2022	\$35,750.00
<i>DW Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Phase 2 – C44890</i>	May 11, 2023	\$319,260.00
<i>Landscape Design Services Phase 3 – A46890</i>	January 1, 2024	\$100,000.00
**DW Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Phase 3	September 12, 2024	\$1,031,528.03
**DW Perimeter Landscape and Lighting – Contingency		\$200,000.00
	<i>Total Project Cost</i>	\$1,925,103.03

**Current request

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Construction Contract
2. Payment and Performance Bonds
3. Superb Engineering, Inc. Proposal
4. Bid Guarantee
5. Desert Willow Perimeter Landscape and Lighting Rehabilitation Phase Map