

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

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MEETING DATE: September 11, 2025

PREPARED BY: Neal Ennis, Project Manager

SUBJECT: AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO CROSSTOWN ELECTRICAL & DATA, INC., FOR THE LOCAL HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2025 PROJECT (CTS00005) – CEQA DETERMINATION

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Make a finding that the project is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, pursuant to Class 1, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), and authorize the City Engineer to submit a determination of Categorical Exemption
2. Award a construction contract to Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc., of Irwindale, California, for the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program 2025 Project in the amount of \$719,987.00, plus a \$71,998.70 contingency for unforeseen expenses.
3. Authorize the City Attorney to make necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement.
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, amendments, change orders up to the contingency amount, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the actions taken herewith.
5. 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:**

In 2020, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) issued a call for projects under Cycle 10 of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), a federally funded program that provides competitive grant funding to local agencies for infrastructure improvements aimed at reducing the number and severity of traffic collisions.

In September 2020, staff submitted two HSIP applications: one for the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program 2025 Project and another for crosswalk improvements. In March 2021, the City of Palm Desert (City) was awarded \$1,912,600 in HSIP funding, with no local match required, to complete both projects.

The Local Highway Safety Improvement Program 2025 Project will upgrade the City's traffic signal system by installing retroreflective backplates on 1,663 traffic signal heads and replacing pedestrian signal heads with countdown modules at 35 intersections. These improvements are intended to enhance intersection visibility, reduce the risk of collisions, and improve pedestrian safety.

In June 2021, Caltrans approved \$325,000 for the Preliminary Engineering phase. In April 2022, the City Council awarded a design contract to TJKM Transportation Consultants for \$181,296.79. Design was completed in January 2024, and construction authorization was approved in June 2025.

**Request for Bids:**

The Project was advertised through the City’s bid portal, OpenGov (Project ID: 2025-IFB-198), and six bids were received electronically on August 15, 2025.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Base Bid</b>	<b>Bid Alternate</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>
<b>Crosstown Electrical &amp; Data, Inc.</b>	<b>Irwindale, CA</b>	<b>\$700,847.00</b>	<b>\$19,140.00</b>	<b>\$719,987.00</b>
Elecnor Belco Electric, Inc.	Chino, CA	\$874,753.00	\$33,792.00	\$908,545.00
California Professional Engineering, Inc.	La Puente, CA	\$926,619.00	\$18,414.00	\$945,033.00
Sierra Pacific Electrical Contracting	Riverside, CA	\$1,195,271.00	\$19,932.00	\$1,215,203.00
PTM General Engineering Services, Inc.	Riverside, CA	\$1,238,367.00	\$33,660.00	\$1,272,027.00
Alfaro Communications Construction, Inc.	Compton, CA	\$1,299,152.74	\$18,682.62	\$1,317,835.36

The Engineer’s Estimate for the Project was \$1,312,050. The Project was bid with an Additive Bid Item to remove and replace countdown pedestrian head modules. Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc., submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$700,847, plus a bid alternate of \$19,140, for a total of \$719,987, which falls within the Project budget.

Staff reviewed the bid documents and determined that the bid submitted by Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc. is responsive, responsible, and in compliance with all specifications, including required forms. Based on this review, staff recommends awarding the construction contract to Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc.

**Environment Review:**

Staff recommends that the City Council determine the project is categorically exempt from CEQA, pursuant to Class 1, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) under the CEQA Guidelines, as the project involves improvements to, and the reconstruction or rehabilitation of, existing facilities other than buildings.

**Legal Review:**

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

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Budget for this project’s construction is included in the approved FY 2025-26 Financial Plan and Five-Year Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list, utilizing Measure A funds from account 2134317-5000908. This action will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund. Upon completion of the project, staff will submit for reimbursement from Caltrans.

<b>Authorized Budgets</b>	<b>Date Authorized</b>	<b>Measure A Fund 213</b>
Eng & Design Budget FY21/22	7/1/2021	182,553.64
Construction Budget FY22/23	7/1/2022	1,641,941.00
<b>Total Authorized Budget to Date</b>		<b>1,824,494.64</b>

  

<b>Authorized Expenditures</b>	<b>Date Authorized</b>	<b>Measure A Fund 2132</b>
TJKM Transportation (C42950)	4/14/2022	181,296.79
Misc - Postage for mailers	9/30/2023	1,256.85
<b>Total Authorized Expenditures to Date</b>		<b>182,553.64</b>
<b>Construction: Crosstown Electrical &amp; Data, Inc.*</b>		<b>719,987.00</b>
<b>Contingency 10%*</b>		<b>71,998.70</b>
<b>Remaining Project Budget Available</b>		<b>849,955.30</b>

\*This request

Any remaining project funds available upon completion of the project will be reallocated to other eligible Measure A projects.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Construction Contract
2. Contractor Bid
3. Payment and Performance Bonds
4. CEQA Notice of Exemption
5. Vicinity Map
6. Allocation Letter
7. Finance Letter
8. Infographic