



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
CC: Members of Administration and Public Works Committee
From: Christopher Venatta, Senior Project Manager
CC: Edgar Cano, Interim Public Works Agency Director; Lara Biggs, City Engineer
Subject: Contract Award with SmithGroup, Inc. for Evanston Shoreline Repairs (RFQ 21-45)
Date: April 11, 2022

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with SmithGroup, Inc. (35 East Wacker, Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60601) for the Evanston Shoreline Repairs (RFQ 21-45) in the amount of \$333,000.00.

Funding Source:

Funding is provided from the 2021 GO Bond Fund (Account 415.40.4121.62145 – 521008) in the amount of \$299,280.00, which has an approved FY 2022 budget of \$300,000.00 and a YTD balance of \$300,000.00 and the Water Fund (Account 513.71.7330.62145 – 521008) in the amount of \$33,720.00, which has an approved FY 2022 budget of \$135,000.00 and a YTD balance of \$135,000.00.

Council Action:

For Action

Summary:

In recent years, record high water levels combined with severe storms and intense wave action have resulted in significant damage to much of Evanston's lakefront revetment and groin systems. In 2020, conditions in some areas deteriorated to the point where significant flooding and loss of entire beaches occurred while loss of park land and permanent damage to several lakefront buildings was a potential threat. On 2/24/20, City Council approved a contract with SmithGroup for the Evanston Shoreline Condition Assessment. During Spring 2020, SmithGroup worked with the City of Evanston to develop an analysis of the condition of the City-owned shoreline and a roadmap for long-term improvements to stabilize and improve the lakefront. Contract drawing for immediate stabilization repairs to the highest priority areas were also developed and these repairs were completed in Fall 2020. These repairs consisted of the

installation of temporary sandbags to reinforce the rock revetment and mitigate erosion and, in some locations, the addition of new rock to the revetment wall.

To address these issues long-term, the City intends to procure the services of a coastal engineering consulting team to design permanent shoreline stabilization solutions for all sites highlighted in the adopted Shoreline Implementation Roadmap. These sites include Greenwood Beach, Elliott Park (north and south), Sheridan Road, Clark Square, Dempster Beach, Lee Street Beach (north and south), and Water Treatment Plant as well as the Dog Park location as identified in the Roadmap. The Roadmap can be found on the City's website at this link:

<https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showpublisheddocument/59827/637387175302870000>

The detailed scope of the project consists of:

- Surveying and Data Collection
- Site Evaluation and Engineering Studies
- Concept Design and Public Engagement
- Preliminary Design and Regulatory Agency Engagement
- Benefit Cost Analysis
- Final Engineering (Not included in this award but evaluated during RFQ process and may be considered based on available funding and consultant performance)
- Construction Engineering (Not included in this award but evaluated during RFQ process may be considered based on available funding and consultant performance)

Staff has submitted grant applications to procure funding to assist in the long-term repairs, but has received feedback that the preliminary design and benefit cost analysis must be complete in order to submit a competitive grant application. Therefore, completion of this initial study phase will need to occur if the City is to be successful in obtaining grants for long-term stabilization of the lakefront.

Analysis

On December 9, 2021, the City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ 21-45) seeking proposals for professional engineering services for the subject study. On January 11, 2022, six proposals were received from the following consulting firms:

Firm	Address
AECOM	303 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1400, Chicago IL 60601
AMI Consulting Engineers	91 Main Street, Superior, WI 54880
GEI Consultants, Inc.	400 N. Lakeview Pkwy, Suite 140, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
GZE Geoenvironmental, Inc.	915 Harger Road, Suite 330, Oak Brook , IL 60523
SmithGroup	35 East Wacker, Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60601
W.F. Baird & Associates	2924 Marketplace Drive, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53719

The proposal review and interview team consisted of:

- Chris Venatta P.E. – Senior Project Manager
- Linda Thomas - Purchasing Specialist
- Lara Biggs, P.E. – City Engineer
- Johanna Nyden, AICP – Community Development Director
- Lawrence Hemingway – Parks and Recreation Department Director
- Edgar Cano – Interim Public Works Agency Director
- Stephen Walker – Parks and Greenways Supervisor

The submittals for the project were reviewed based on firms/sub-consultants qualifications & expertise; project technical approach; organization and completeness of response; willingness to execute the City’s professional service agreement; and M/W/EBE participation. The proposals were rated and interviews were conducted with the top two firms. Including information from the interviews, the final scoring of the proposals is as follows:

Firm	Firms / Sub-consultants Experience and Qualifications (35%)	Project Approach (35%)	Organization and Completeness of Response (10%)	Willingness to Execute the City’s Professional Service Agreement (10%)	M/W/EBE (10%)	Total Score
AECOM	32	30	10	10	10	91
AMI	24	20	10	8	8	70
GEI	29	24	10	8	10	81
GZE	28	33	10	8	9	88
SmithGroup	35	34	10	8	10	96
W.F. Baird	24	24	10	8	10	76

SmithGroup was selected as the best candidate to provide the engineering services. Staff is recommending award of engineering study only at this time. Upon satisfactory completion of the engineering study, the City will consider awarding the Final Engineering & Construction Engineering services also. SmithGroup has previously completed coastal engineering projects for the City of Evanston and staff has found their work to be satisfactory.

SmithGroup is proposing to meet the City’s M/W/EBE program goals. A memo reviewing their compliance is attached.

Attachments:

[MWEBE Memo RFP 21-45 Evanston Shoreline Repairs final](#)



Memorandum

To: Edgar Cano, Interim Director, Public Works Agency
 Lara Biggs, P.E., Bureau Chief – Capital Planning / City Engineer
 Chris Venatta, P.E. Senior Project Manager

From: Tammi Nunez, Purchasing Manager

Subject: Evanston Shoreline Repairs, RFQ 21-45

Date: April 11, 2022

The goal of the Minority, Women and Evanston Business Enterprise Program (M/W/EBE) is to assist such businesses with opportunities to grow. In order to help ensure such growth, the City's goal is to have general contractors utilize M/W/EBEs to perform no less than 25% of the awarded contract.

With regard to the recommendation for the 2021 Evanston Shoreline Repairs and RFQ 21-45, SmithGroup, Inc., total base bid is \$333,000.00 and they are found to be in compliance with the City's MWEBE goal.

Name of M/W/EBE	Scope of Work	Contract Amount	%	MBE	WBE	EBE
American Surveying and Engineering, P.C. 200 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2630 Chicago, IL 60601	Surveying and Engineering	\$42,000.00	12.6%	X		
Wang Engineering, Inc. 1145 N. Main Street Lombard, IL 60148	Engineering	\$30,000.00	9%	X		
Infrastructure Engineering, Inc. One South Wacker Drive, Suite 2650 Chicago, IL 60606	Engineering	\$15,000.00	4.5%	X		
Total M/W/EBE		\$87,000.00	26.1%			

CC: Hitesh Desai, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer