



Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee Information

January 29, 2016

Joint Planning Services Initiative

Issue: Should SACOG procure joint planning services based on feedback from selected jurisdictions?

Recommendation: This item is for information only. Staff will come back to the board at a later date with a proposed RFQ for release.

Discussion: As part of the SACOG Innovation Task Force efforts, SACOG is exploring different ways to more effectively and efficiently provide public services. SACOG is considering the possibility of establishing a joint planning service program, whereby cities and counties may draw from a pool of pre-screened and qualified consulting firms for a variety of planning services. The intent is that the consultant services would be provided at a wholesale group discount rate to local jurisdictions through a streamlined procurement process. The program would be voluntary and member agencies may participate at any time. This gives the jurisdiction the option to discuss directly with the pre-screened consultants and decide whether to enter into contract (assuming they sign an MOU with SACOG allowing them to do so), or the jurisdiction may conduct its own procurement process. This program is based on a successful model from the Houston, Texas region.

At the end of 2015, SACOG staff reached out to local planning departments of jurisdictions with the smallest populations to better understand interest in the joint procurement of planning services. Staff spoke with 14 agencies who were at minimum interested in SACOG further exploring this potential program and developing an RFQ. The early contacts were made with smaller jurisdictions because they are more likely to lack adequate staffing to provide the breadth of planning services needed. With confirmed interest, staff released a survey in order to narrow the catalog of potential planning services to be requested for qualifications. Eleven jurisdictions responded to the survey that identified the most interest in the following specific areas of planning services:

- Complete/Technical Support for CEQA/NEPA documents and requirements;
- General/Specific/Community Plans;
- Zoning Code & Development Regulation;
- Fiscal Impact Analysis;
- Transportation Modeling and Traffic Impact Analysis; and
- Development Project Feasibility.

SACOG staff will contact the remaining member jurisdictions for input, and then return to the board at a later date with the proposed RFQ for action to release.

Approved by:

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