

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JEN SANTOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARKS
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MEYER
STUDIO LAND ARCHITECTS, INC. A CALIFORNIA
CORPORATION, TO PROVIDE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL
DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES AND TO PREPARE A
MASTER PLAN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS FOR
FREMONT NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by resolution, approve a Professional Services Agreement through October 1, 2023, between the City of Santa Rosa and Meyer Studio Land Architects, Inc, of Berkeley, California, to provide landscape architectural design, engineering and construction services and to prepare a Master Plan for Fremont Neighborhood Park in an amount not to exceed \$474,986.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Agreement with Meyer Studio Land Architects, Inc. a California Corporation, is to provide landscape architectural design and engineering services and prepare a master plan and construction drawings to reimagine Fremont Neighborhood Park.

BACKGROUND

Fremont Park is a designated as a 1.7-acre neighborhood park located within the northeast part of the downtown area of Santa Rosa at 860 5th Street, Santa Rosa, CA. The park was acquired in 1929 and constructed in phases over several years with curved brick pathways crossing the park, three wood and brick lattice arbors surrounding a tiered water fountain, elliptical lily pond and long pool.

There have been a variety of changes and updates to the park over the years including installation of park lighting in 1972 and Cancer Survivor Park art installation in 1999

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which includes bronze sculptures and plaques in honor of Cancer survivors. The original brick pathways were removed and replaced with asphalt long ago but many of the parks original design features are still present including two rows containing 9 Irish Yew's each flanking the art sculptures, the lily pond, fountain, and arbors.

Santa Rosa Middle School is located across 5th Street from Fremont Park and there are pending development permits that will allow for more than 600 residential living units currently pending for the downtown area.

Fremont Park is located within the Downtown Station Area priority planning area and although not located within a Historic Preservation District (HPD), it is within approximately 1000 feet of the Cherry Street and McDonald neighborhoods HPD's.

Howard Gilkey designed and participated in the construction management of Fremont Park in 1929. Gilkey is well known as a pioneer of landscape architecture, for working with Luther Burbank, and for his Bay Area legacy of public parks. He gained national recognition for his public parks and garden shows. He was also the landscape architect for Juilliard and Doyle Parks.

Although Fremont Park is not recognized as a historic place, the Cultural Heritage Board will inform staff and the community during the reimagining process if the community desires significant changes to Gilkey's original plan. The Art in Public Places Committee will inform staff and the community during the reimagining process if the community desires significant changes to the Cancer Survivors Art sculptures.

The Agreement with Meyer Studio Land Architects, Inc. will assist the City through community and stakeholder participation to develop a Master Plan and implementation of the master plan improvements.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

Not applicable.

ANALYSIS

A Request for Proposal to provide landscape architectural design and engineering services and to prepare a master plan and construction documents for Fremont Neighborhood Park was issued in June 2021. Eight proposals were received and reviewed by a committee comprised of staff from the Transportation and Public Works Department. The review committee ranked Meyer Studio Land Architects, Inc. highest and is recommended with a not-to-exceed amount of \$474,986.

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Meyer is expected to complete the required services and tasks to the reasonable satisfaction of the City not later than October 1, 2023.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this action does not have a fiscal impact on the General Fund. Funds for this project have been appropriated from Zone 3, Northeast Park Development Impact Fees, Fund 09541- Fremont Park Rehabilitation.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This Professional Services Agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15601(b)(3) in that CEQA only applies to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Staff anticipates that the resulting Master Plan will be exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 – Existing Facilities, in that approval of the Master Plan would facilitate improvements to an existing public facility with a negligible or no expansion of use. Formal environmental review as required by CEQA will commence prior to adoption of the Master Plan.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution/Exhibit A – Professional Services Agreement with Meyer Studio Land Architects, Inc., a California Corporation

CONTACT

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