

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Kim Shultz, Senior Transportation Planner

**REGARDING:** Amendment to Contract with PDM Group for Continued On-Call Services for the Highway 1 Project

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***RECOMMENDATIONS***

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the attached resolution (Attachment 1) amending the contract with PDM Group (aka Dale Dennis) for continued on-call services associated with the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project.

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***BACKGROUND***

In October 2002, following circulation of a Request for Qualifications, the Commission authorized contracts with On-Call Consultants, to provide technical and policy guidance in the delivery of all facets of the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane project. One of those contracts is with Dale Dennis (dba PDM Group) to provide technical engineering/project management support for the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project through the project approval/environmental documentation (PA/ED) phase. That contract was amended and is now set to expire on June 30, 2005.

***DISCUSSION***

Mr. Dennis provides the PA/ED phase of the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project with the technical engineering expertise and project management experience not possessed by the RTC staff. Mr. Dennis has provided similar services to various transportation agencies in the San Francisco Bay area. Mr. Dennis reviews and provides input on technical analyses, reports, mapping, designs, survey work, engineering and right of way issues, cost estimates, and public information materials. Mr. Dennis attends each monthly Project Development Team (PDT) meeting for the project and consults with staff and the Nolte project manager as needed. He has been instrumental in suggesting and developing consensus at the PDT on strategies to address issues and keep the project on schedule.

The following list shows current and anticipated work elements over the next 12 months for which Mr. Dennis is expected to provide engineering and project management support services:

- **November '04 – June '06:** Preliminary engineering for independent utility projects such as the pedestrian/bicycle crossings and the Soquel/Morrissey Merge Lane Project
- **March '05 – June '06:** Develop project alternatives for analysis including full and reduced standard geometrics, assessments for right-of-way, and utility impacts, design exceptions, and cost estimate updates.

- **September '05 – June '06:** Technical environmental studies on air and water quality, hydrology and drainage, noise, utilities, and geology and seismism.
- **November '05 – June '06:** Identify and quantify aesthetics and visual impacts and treatments

Mr. Dennis will assist staff in monitoring and reviewing the work for the component studies as well as the administrative draft of the complete environmental document.

#### Contract Value and Duration

The need for the services provided by Dale Dennis will continue through the PA/ED phase of the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project. Therefore, the RTC included \$25,000 for the contract with Dale Dennis in the FY 05-06 budget. Taking into consideration the amount expended thus far and the approved FY03-04, FY04-05, and FY05-06 budgets, the maximum amount for this contract is \$65,621. The attached resolution amends the contract to that maximum amount and extends the term to June 30, 2006. The resolution also authorizes futures amendments contingent to continued allocation through the Commission's budget and Work Program. This latter clause will allow the contract amendments to be handled administratively by staff.

The proposed contract amendment (Attachment 2) also provides for an increase in hourly rates comparable to increases in engineering rates in the San Francisco Bay area of 5% or more. Exhibit 1 of the proposed amendment provides for a 3% increase in Dale Dennis's hourly rate, effective July 1, 2005, and a 5% increase for Heide Ouren (dba HQE Incorporated) effective January 1, 2006. Ms. Ouren serves as a sub-consultant, on an as needed basis, with particular expertise in design specifications, standards and cost estimating. Hourly rates for Mr. Dennis and Ms. Ouren were last adjusted in June 2004.

#### ***SUMMARY***

The PDM Group (aka Dale Dennis) provides the PA/ED phase of the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project with the technical engineering expertise and project management experience not possessed by the RTC staff. The attached resolution authorizes the Executive Director to negotiate and execute amendments to the agreement provided the amendments are within the scope of the initial agreement and consistent with the approved RTC Budget and Work Program.

#### Attachments:

1. Authorizing Resolution
2. Contract Amendment No. 2 with PDM Group