

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION (RCA)

DEPARTMENT: Engineering

AGENDA DATE: October 16, 2007

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: R. Alan Shubert, City Engineer (X4423)

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

That the City participate with the County in conducting a survey of wages received by classes of workers employed on public works projects within the City of El Paso for the purpose of examining and providing recommendations to City Council on Wage Rate issues.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

For construction projects that consist of horizontal construction, streets, bridges, etc., the City uses the applicable federal wage (Davis Bacon) rates which are updated on a regular basis. However for federally funded construction of vertical structures (buildings) the City must use the higher of the federal wage rate or the City wage rate. When a project is funded solely with City funds the established City building wage rate is used. The current City wage rate was established in 1999.

In order to keep the wage rates updated the City has some options. The first option is to use federal wage rates that are updated by the federal government on a regular basis. The second option is for the City to conduct its own wage rate survey. This is how the City established its wage rates dated 1999.

The County makes it a practice to update wage rates every three years, so their rates are more current than the wages set in 1999 by the City. The City has the option to conduct its own local survey of wages; however, with the County preparing to conduct a survey and in the interest of establishing current wage rates with a single rather than multiple surveys, participating with the County in conducting the survey is a viable approach. Approval of this resolution will allow the City to join with the County in the survey task.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

None.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

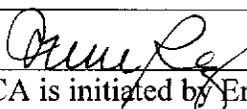
No funding required. The County has established funding for the administrative cost of the survey.

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

N/A

***** REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION *****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD: 
(Example: if RCA is initiated by Engineering, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City participate with the County in conducting a survey of wages received by classes of workers employed on public works projects within the City of El Paso for the purpose of examining and providing recommendations to City Council on Wage Rate issues.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook, Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Lupe Cuellar
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

for R. Alan Shubert, P.E., C.B.O.
City Engineer