

Committee: Planning & Community Development Analyst: Ryan Countryman

ECAF: 2022-0659

Consideration

Proposed Motion 22-284 would authorize the County Executive to sign a consultant services agreement with Berk Consulting, Inc., for services related to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update (2024 Update).

Background

The 2024 Update requires preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Work on this is by Berk Consulting is already underway as previously authorized by Motion 21-278. Proposed Motion 22-284 would add to the body of work Berk Consulting is doing. Although generally anticipated, details on which docket applications from property owners and council-sponsored initiatives were not available when the scope of work authorized in the earlier motion was prepared. With the docket and motions for council-initiatives now final, proposed Motion 22-284 would formalize this part of the EIS consultant work. The existing contract and currently proposed motion identify this continued analysis as Task 3a.

A Formal Task Assignment Document (FTAD) accompanies proposed Motion 22-284 and provides details on Task 3a. This includes study of nine docket items and seven council motions that the EIS will address. PDS has negotiated with Berk Consulting for a fee to complete Task 3a for an amount not to exceed \$551,881. The proposed contract would end on December 31, 2023.

Current Proposal

Summary and Scope: The motion would authorize signing of a contract with Berk Consulting for services related to the 2024 Update EIS.

¹ The descriptions of proposed amendments in two policy initiatives by the County Council on page 1 of the FTAD are confusing. Council staff has confirmed with PDS staff that the intent is to have Berk study Motion 22-096 (urban tree canopy) and motion 22-097 (broadband) as passed by the County Council, not as described by Berk in the FTAD.

Effective Date: Upon execution of the contract.

Fiscal Implications: No budget changes needed because PDS already has budgetary authority in Fund 002 (General Fund). Contract is for up to a maximum of \$551,881.

Handling: NORMAL

Risk Management: APPROVE

Finance: APPROVE

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE

Request: Move to General Legislative Session July 13 for consideration.