

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
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To: Council President Ignacio De La Fuente
Chair, Rules and Legislation Committee
From: Lupe Schoenberger
Rules Committee Legislative Analyst
Date: November 1, 2007
Re: **Action on a Report and Recommendation Regarding the State and Federal
Lobbying Contracts**

SUMMARY

This report provides information regarding Oakland's State and Federal lobbying contracts. It recommends that the City Council accept the stated plans for entering into a new contract for federal lobbying services and direct staff to return with a resolution to extend the current state lobbying contract.

The federal lobbying contract, currently held by Platinum Advisors, will expire in December of 2007. A "Request for Proposals" (RFP) process to select the City's federal lobbyist for the 2008 calendar year was initiated on June 25, 2007 by the Office of the Mayor. The Mayor will announce the selection of the federal lobbyist in November 2007.

The state lobbying contract is currently held by Townsend Public Affairs and will expire in December of 2007. For purposes of continuity, the Mayor's office has expressed a desire to extend the Townsend contract through the 2008 state legislative year. A resolution will need to be presented to the City Council waiving the request for proposal process for the hiring of a state lobbyist for the 2008 legislative session and authorizing an extension of the contract with Townsend Public Affairs for that work.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact. Both the federal and state lobbying costs have been allocated in the FY 2007/09 budget. Funds in the amount of \$125,000 per year have been allocated for a federal lobbyist and \$120,000 per year for the state lobbyist.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Federal Lobbyist

The City's current contract for federal lobbying services with Platinum Advisors is due to expire on December 1, 2007. A request for proposals process was initiated by the Office of the Mayor

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on June 25th, 2007. The purchasing ordinance stipulates that if a contract amount falls under \$150,000.000 and an RFP process is utilized to identify a vendor, the City Administrator is authorized to award and execute the contract; therefore, no City Council action will be required for approving the new federal lobbyist contract. The contractor will be required to meet all City contract program requirements. The Mayor will announce his selection of a federal lobbyist for the 2008 year in early November.

State Lobbyist

Townsend Public Affairs (TPA) is currently under contract with the City for state lobbying services. Their contract will expire on December 1, 2007. In an effort to maintain continuity on the City's state lobbying efforts, the Mayor has expressed a desire to extend TPA's contract through November of 2008.

The contract dollars authorized by the City Council for the TPA contract will be expended at the end of their contract on December 1, 2007; therefore, a resolution waiving the request for proposal process and authorizing the City Administrator to extend the contract with Townsend Public Affairs through the 2008 legislative session and increase the contract amount to pay for the additional work is required.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

No sustainable opportunities have been identified.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

This report contains no ADA or senior citizen access issues.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Accept the report and direct staff to prepare a resolution to extend the State lobbying contract.

Respectfully submitted,



Lupe Schoenberger
Rules Committee Legislative Analyst