

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council
FROM: David J. Deutsch, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2010
SUBJECT: Proposed Award of a City Contract to Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, PC for the Preparation of a Master Plan for Whitemarsh Park (R-16-10)

The City of Bowie owns Whitemarsh Park located at 100 Whitemarsh Park Drive, Bowie, Maryland. Whitemarsh Park serves as one of the City's "premier" youth outdoor athletic facilities and is home to the Bowie Playhouse, Bowie Sport Fit (a privately owned indoor sports facility), as well as 4 athletic fields, 1 playground, 1 picnic pavilion and approximately 4 miles of improved and unimproved trails. Rapid growth in the past 15 years of youth and adult athletics, membership at the Bowie Sport Fit facility, and the increased patronage at the Bowie Playhouse, have contributed to intense competition for limited park resources. Specifically, the amount of available parking, limited ingress/egress, and the lack of year-round restroom facilities are areas where improvement is necessary.

During the FY 2010 budget session, staff was directed to have a master plan completed for Whitemarsh Park, which will identify the upgrades necessary to accommodate current and future needs of the City and the community, and to provide the City with a "road map" for how best to implement the upgrades at this park in the most efficient, and cost effective manner.

The current year capital budget includes funding in the amount of \$25,000 for the preparation of a master plan for Whitemarsh Park. On December 10, 2009, the City advertised a request for proposals for these services and on January 22, bids were received from sixteen (16) firms. The bids received for this work are as follows:

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| Donovan, Feola, Balderson & Assoc. <i>Mont. Village, MD</i> | \$19,998.00 | Design Core Studio, LLC <i>Williamsport, MD</i> | \$24,839.00 |
| ARRO Engineering <i>Hagerstown, MD</i> | \$20,980.00 | Axiom Engineering Design <i>Columbia, MD</i> | \$24,880.00 |
| Frederick Ward Associates <i>Bel Air, MD</i> | \$21,930.00 | Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects <i>Alexandria, VA</i> | \$24,951.31 |
| Davis, Bohlen & Friedel, Inc. <i>Salisbury, MD</i> | \$22,500.00 | JMT <i>Sparks, MD</i> | \$24,980.00 |
| WBCM <i>Baltimore, MD</i> | \$22,900.00 | Dewberry <i>Baltimore, MD</i> | \$26,750.00 |
| Slater & Associates <i>Columbia, MD</i> | \$23,900.00 | Milan Grace, LLC <i>Baltimore, MD</i> | \$27,800.00 |
| G.E. Fielder Assoc. <i>Columbia, MD</i> | \$24,449.44 | O'Dougherty Group <i>Annapolis, MD</i> | \$35,240.00 |
| The Faux Group <i>Annapolis, MD</i> | \$24,500.00 | CPH Engineers, Inc. <i>Lanham, MD</i> | \$39,310.00 |

The above proposals were reviewed, evaluated and scored by staff. As a result thereof, a short list was created consisting of four (4) firms that were interviewed by a selection committee. The short-listed firms that were interviewed were: Frederick Ward, G.E. Fielder, Lardner/Klein, Landscape Architects, PC, and JMT.

Upon completion of interviews, the selection committee identified Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, PC as being the most responsive and responsible bidder. Their understanding of the complexity of the project, combined with their approach to soliciting and managing public participation throughout the entire project was the strongest of all firms interviewed. In addition, Burgess & Niple, a subcontractor which Lardner/Klein has selected to assist them with the preparation of the master plan, has extensive experience in athletic field development and redevelopment and several of their recent projects share direct similarities with our master plan requirements.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the approval of Resolution R-16-10 awarding the contract for the preparation of a park master plan for Whitemarsh Park to Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects in the amount of \$24,951.31.

RESOLUTION

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
AWARDING A CONTRACT TO LARDNER/KLEIN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PC FOR THE PREPARATION
OF A MASTER PLAN FOR WHITEMARSH PARK

WHEREAS, the City of Bowie owns Whitemarsh Park, located at 100 White Marsh Park Drive, Bowie, Maryland (the “Park”); and

WHEREAS, the City is in need of a master plan for Whitemarsh Park that addresses the current state of the structures and facilities at the Park and identifies the improvements required thereto to ensure that the Park meets the current and future needs of the Park patrons and the City of Bowie: and

WHEREAS, a request for proposals was issued for the creation of a master plan for the Park which had a closing date of January 22, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., at which time sixteen bids were received and opened; and

WHEREAS, staff thoroughly analyzed the sixteen proposals and subsequently interviewed four (4) firms, checked their references, and concluded the most responsive and responsible qualified bidder is Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, PC of Alexandria, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, PC of Alexandria, Virginia, is fully capable of completing the necessary work per City specifications and schedule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland that the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, PC of Alexander, Virginia in the amount of \$24,951.31 for the preparation of a master plan for Whitemarsh Park, which funding has been included in the current City budget.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Regular Meeting on March 15, 2010.

G. Frederick Robinson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Fleming
City Clerk