

PUBLIC HEARING

**City Council
July 24, 2012**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Thomas E. Robinson, City Manager

ORIGINATED BY: Anne Haraksin, Deputy City Manager
Andrew Vialpando, Administrative Analyst I

SUBJECT: PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR 2008 DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE (DRI) FUNDS TO UPDATE THE CITY'S LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

BACKGROUND

Following the Station Fires in 2008, the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) made available approximately \$38.3 million in Disaster Recovery Initiative (DRI) funds to Los Angeles County jurisdictions. The distribution and monitoring of DRI funds are administered through the Department's State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Earlier this year, the DHCD released a Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) for approximately \$5 million of unspent 2008 DRI funds. The state has relaxed the eligibility criteria for the 2008 DRI funds allowing cities to submit an application for disaster planning and mitigation activities. The funding covers 100 percent of the cost involved in the project.

FINDINGS

Pursuant to the application requirements for the DRI grant, staff held a public meeting on June 12, 2012 to solicit input from the community for the design phase of the application. Staff has since prepared an application requesting \$17,500 of 2008 DRI funds to hire a consultant to update the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP).

The LHMP is a plan aimed at identifying natural and manmade hazards that pose a threat to the City of La Mirada. The LHMP includes information to assist residents, public and private sector organizations, and partner agencies in planning for hazards such as earthquakes, flooding, landslides and hazmat releases. The City's current LHMP was created in 2004. The LHMP is required to be updated every five years pursuant to the FEMA Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

Staff received bids from three experienced emergency planning consultants to perform an update of the City's LHMP. Their bids are listed below:

- Emergency Planning Consultants: \$12,000
- The Dease Group Consultants: \$17,500

- Howell Consulting: \$18,000 - \$20,000

The Dease Group Consultants have more than 15 years experience in the emergency management field, including eight years working for the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA). Furthermore, the City of Norwalk recently hired The Dease Group Consultants to develop their LHMP. Based on The Dease Group Consultants' experience and familiarity with the City's shared emergency services with the City of Norwalk, staff recommends submitting an application for the 2008 DRI grant program requesting \$17,500 to update the City's LHMP.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended the City Council:

1. Conduct a Public Hearing and receive public comment on the proposed application for the 2008 DRI funds to update the City's LHMP;
2. Adopt Resolution No. 12-35 authorizing staff to submit a 2008 DRI grant application requesting the amount of \$17,500 to contract with The Dease Group Consultants to update the City's LHMP; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, on behalf of the City, to execute an agreement with The Dease Group Consultants for a not to exceed amount of \$17,500 if grant funds are awarded to the City.