

City Council Regular Meeting

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Meeting Date: 08/05/2019
Recommended by: Paul Tice, Planning & Development Director
Prepared by: Paul Tice, Planning & Development Director
Finance Director Review: Celina Morris
City Attorney Review: Brett Wallace
Approved by: Larry Rains **Date Submitted:** 07/12/2019
Type of Action Requested: Resolution, Ordinance

SUBJECT:

Approval of a contract with Avolve Professional Services for implementation of their ProjectDox - Electronic Plan Solution.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Mayor and City Council approval a contract, not to exceed \$241,856, with Avolve Professional Services for implementation of their ProjectDox - Electronic Plan Solution including the PlansAnywhere and OAS customer portal modules.

DISCUSSION:

In conjunction with the FY18/19 budget an Electronic Plan Review system was approved as a CIP to achieve a higher level of customer service and efficiency associated with our planning, engineering, building and fire plan review activity. This CIP, which has a budget of \$300,000, was rolled over and re-approved in conjunction with the current FY19/20 budget. Staff sought to find an electronic plan review software that would successfully integrate with our existing Harris ComDev permit/project management system, as well as our WebPermits inspection system. Staff contacted all of the primary vendors offering electronic plan review systems to determine if their systems had successfully integrated with ComDev and WebPermit systems in other communities. Avolve Software Corporation, a Scottsdale based company, was the only vendor who provided evidence that they have successfully integrated their ProjectDox Electronic Plan Review system with the Harris ComDev permit/project management system in two cities (Kissimmee and Gainesville, Fla.). Additionally, Avolve provided information that they could easily integrate with the Selectron WebPermit software which we are about to launch as a separate but related CIP project. Based upon the fact that the Avolve ProjectDox -Electronic Plan Review Software is the only system that has a proven ability to integrate with our current technology systems staff recommends that we contract with them as a sole source vendor (See Attachment A).

Avolve indicated that they could provide their ProjectDox Electronic Plan Review

Solution as either an On-Premise system or as a cloud based subscription system (SaaS). As reflected on Attachment 2 the On-Premise system would have a much higher initial cost (\$310,000) than the SaaS approach (\$219,869). However, the On-Premise system would also have lower annual subscription and maintenance costs (\$40,000) than the SaaS approach (\$114,000). The On-Premise solution would involve the purchase of additional servers and a significant IT staff resource to operate/maintain. After careful review by our IT and Business Integration staff it was recommended that the SaaS cloud-based approach would be the most cost-effective in the long-run as well as be able to be fully implemented within our desired 6-8 month timeframe.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The contract with Avolve will not exceed their quoted price of \$219,869 plus a 10% contingency for a total of \$241,856 which is well within the \$300,000 budget for the project. There likely will be some additional expenses associated with full implementation of ProjectDox that will be under the \$25,000 threshold requiring City Council approval. These anticipated expenses are:

1. \$5,000 to Harris for ComDev modifications necessary to allow the ProjectDox integration.
2. \$1100 for GPU upgraded to the desktop computers for the city staff that would be reviewing plans electronically.
3. While the bandwidth (internet speed) between Building B and satellite offices is sufficient for transport, the connection to the external internet is insufficient for the requirements of uploading and downloading electronic plans. This connectivity will be important to resolve as some of the staff utilizing the ProjectDox-Electronic Plan Review software will be located at the NOC and Public Safety Building. To resolve this, the City will negotiate for additional capacity from the two internet providers (Century Link and Cox) who service the City. Initial conversations with these companies indicates that the internet speed will be able to be increased from 100 Mbps to 200 Mbps with no increase from our existing cost due to new pricing structure in their service contracts. This improved internet speed will be beneficial to other staff in those buildings as well for activities unrelated to electronic plan review.

These additional costs can be handled within the \$300,000 budgeted for this project,

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve sole source contract with Avolve Professional Services for purchase of their ProjectDox - Electronic Plan Solution software including the PlansAnywhere and OAS customer portal modules.
2. Deny contracting authority and direct staff to pursue alternative purchasing solutions.