## **Association of Bay Area Governments**

#### **Executive Board**

November 18, 2021 Agenda Item 6.i.

## Amendment of Contract REAP Consulting Services

## Subject:

Authorization to amend a contract with Baird + Driskell Community Planning from an amount not to exceed \$550,000 to an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000 to assist ABAG in implementing the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program (REAP) through December 31, 2023.

# **Background:**

After a competitive Request for Proposal process, on July 16, 2020 the ABAG Executive Board authorized the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), or her designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments, to negotiate and enter into a contract with Baird + Driskell Community Planning (Baird + Driskell) in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 to assist ABAG in designing and implementing the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program (REAP) through the end of December 2023. On April 15, 2021, an amendment was approved by the ABAG Executive Board to increase the contract amount by \$200,000. On July 1, 2021, a second amendment was approved under Executive Director Authority to increase the contract by \$150,000.

With the support of Baird + Driskell, ABAG has successfully applied for and been awarded the balance of its REAP grant of \$18,066,861. This amount supplements ABAG's initial REAP grant of \$5,900,000 for a total of \$23,966,861. Furthermore, the implementation phase of the Regional Housing Technical Assistance Program (RHTA) funded in large part by REAP is well underway with strong support from Baird + Driskell. Data tools have been launched, Planning Collaboratives have been formed, a 10-part webinar series on Housing Elements has been delivered, workgroups on Missing Middle Housing and Wildfire Planning have been launched, research on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing is underway, and innovative public outreach tools are available to support difficult conversations with diverse audiences.

Local planning staff have continued to show a high interest in the RHTA program and expressed an increasingly broad range of desired additional housing technical assistance. Among the requests, jurisdictions have expressed a high need for more robust technical assistance with implementation of the new state requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and for additional workgroups on specific topics such as implementing objective design standards and planning for rural housing, among others. In addition, Governor Newsom has recently signed numerous housing bills into law including SB 9 which effectively eliminated single family zoning in California. This has led to a greater need for technical assistance for local jurisdictions to properly implement the new laws.

It has become apparent that the existing Baird + Driskell contract in amount of not to exceed \$550,000 will be insufficient to adequately support implementation of the existing scope of work. Accordingly, an amendment to add \$500,000 to the contract is requested with a total not to exceed \$1,050,000.

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### **Recommended Action:**

The Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), or her designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments, to amend the contract with Baird + Driskell Community Planning from an amount not to exceed \$550,000 to an amount not to exceed \$1,050,000 to assist ABAG in implementing the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program (REAP) through the end of December 2023.

## **Attachments:**

**Summary Approval** 

Reviewed:

Therese W. McMillan

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