



MEMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ♦ FRISCO, COLORADO 80443

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: KATIE KENT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

RE: RESOLUTION 24-33: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A 2ND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH SNO-ENGINEERING, INC., (DBA "SE GROUP") FOR PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE USFS PROPOSAL FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND NEPA REVIEW IN FRISCO'S BACKYARD

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2024

Summary and Background:

The Town is currently under an agreement with SNO-Engineering, Inc., DBA SE Group ("SE Group") for the development of a United States Forest Service ("USFS") Proposal for Resource Management and National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") Review in Frisco's Backyard. Per the current contract, the scope of work was stated to be completed prior to October 31, 2024. Both SE Group and the White River National Forest staff have been moving forward on the project. The first round of reports was submitted by SE Group to the USFS, and SE Group is implementing the edits provided. Additionally, SE Group has moved forward with summarizing the tech reports in the draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

SE Group has requested that the current agreement with the Town be amended to allow for additional time needed to fully complete their scope of work. Attachment 2 contains the tasks associated with the project including which tasks have been completed, and which are outstanding. For the tasks still outstanding, a modified timeline is provided.

No additional funds are requested of the Town for this modification. An extension of the agreement timeline would allow SE Group to complete their responsibilities, under the current Agreement's scope of work, with an extended timeline. Whereas SE Group expects to have a decision signed on June 18, 2025, they request an extension through September 30, 2025, to allow for six additional weeks of scheduling delays as well as final White River National Forest project record management and delivery.

A revised timeline for the Backyard includes:

- Comment period on the EA starting in November 2024.
- TOF/USFS Backyard Agreement with estimated costs and commitments – to be brought before Council at a later date.
- Projected signing of the NEPA agreement on June 18, 2025.
- Following the signing of the NEPA agreement, fuels planning (flagging units) could begin in the summer/fall of 2025.
- Following the signing of the NEPA agreement and the TOF/USFS Backyard Agreement, trail work in the Backyard could start as early as 2026, pending project priorities and funding sources.

Analysis: SE Group has been an integral part of the ongoing development of the work performed so far. Based on their special knowledge of the project and their fair and reasonable planning fees, their included services under the existing scope of work includes:

- Development of a proposal, on behalf of the Town, for resource management in the Backyard area. The proposal includes goals for fuel reduction and trail improvements among other resource management opportunities.
- A fuels treatment overall analysis area, including trail projects for approximately 2,850 acres.
- A robust alternatives development process which includes public involvement, resource analysis, and all prepared documents including for the project area's designation as a National Monument and the regulatory complexity associated with this designation.

Financial Impact:

No additional funds are requested of the Town for this modification. An extension of agreement timeline would allow SE Group to complete their responsibilities, under the current Agreement's scope of work, with an extended timeline to September 30, 2025.

Sno-Engineering Inc.'s original contract was for a cost not to exceed \$240,500, which was spread over the 2022 and 2023 budget years. In September 2023, the Town approved the 1st Amendment to the Agreement allowing a modified scope of work and an additional \$381,124. Council amended the 2023 budget in February 2024 to account for these additional funds. No additional funds are requested with this modified Agreement. Staff will request unused funds for the project in 2024 be rolled over to 2025 to account for this extended timeline.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends a modification of the Contract for Goods and/or Services entered into March 22, 2023, and amended September 26, 2023, a sole source contract with Sno-Engineering, Inc., DBA: SE Group, for the extended timeline as stated in the attachment Second Amendment to Agreement for Goods and/or Scope of Services.

SE Group has been proactively following their scope of work and submitting monthly invoices to the Town for their services. Each of these invoices is accompanied by a document stating work completed within that billing period to demonstrate that tasks have been reasonable and

within the scope of work.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: Completion of hazardous fuels mitigation and improvement of the trail network in the Frisco Backyard area supports the Council's strategic objective of providing progress-driven quality core services, including the pillar of Environmental Stewardship.

Environmental Sustainability: The overarching focus of this project is to improve the ecosystem health, reduce hazardous fuels and risk of wildfire, and create more sustainable recreation opportunities in the Backyard area. Mitigation of hazardous fuels on USFS lands adjacent to the Town of Frisco will improve forest health while reducing the potential impact of wildfire. Trail system improvements in this area will be required to follow current USFS management best practices for trail construction, which will reduce erosion and sedimentation. As with any type of construction activity there will be negative environmental impacts associated with energy consumption and soil disturbance but by conducting these activities in accordance with a plan that incorporates sustainable construction practices, the overall impacts will be minimized.

Reviews and Approvals:

Leslie Edwards, Finance Director
Diane McBride, Assistant Town Manager
Tom Fisher, Town Manager

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Resolution 24-33
Attachment 2 – Second Amended Contract SE Group