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11-16-09

City Council Report

Date: November 16, 2009
To: City Council
Through: Chris Brady, City Manager
Jack Friedline, Deputy City Manager
From: Beth Huning, City Engineer
Subject: The Mesa Grande Ruins, Phase I
City Project 01-801-001
Council District 1

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Council on the results of bids received for The Mesa Grande Ruins, Phase I, located at northwest corner of Brown Road and 10th Street (See Exhibit A for a Vicinity Map).

It is recommended that the Council award this project to the low bidder, KLASS Services, Inc., for a total award of \$52,508.50.

Background

The Mesa Grande Ruins as it exists today has survived modern man's inquisitive nature and numerous scientific excavations. Since the City of Mesa acquired the site in 1985, studies regarding the stabilization of the site have been conducted. To date, no major preservation work has occurred on the site. At various times, volunteers have either used plastic to cover exposed walls or have covered some areas with soil in an effort to reduce erosion. With the recent release of State Heritage Funds, the City has an opportunity to begin surfacing a maintenance area and new pathway (utilizing natural materials to soften the visual impact) as well as install conduit and pull boxes to facilitate a future interpretive system. Additionally, some of the areas that have been impacted by erosion over the years will be identified and stabilized in an effort to preserve the ruins. The City was recently notified that \$100,000 was available and needed to be expended by December 31, 2009. This phase of the project was accelerated and bid to allow the City to take advantage of the available funding.

Discussion

Mesa Grande represents the remains of one of the largest and most complex ancient Hohokam platform mound communities in the United States. Consisting of a central platform mound, an associated plaza, a compound wall and outlying prehistoric houses, Mesa Grande represents a unique and rare cultural resource of unusual interests to the general public and substantial scientific significance to the archaeological profession.

The site was occupied by people known as the Hohokam sometime between A.D. 900 and 1150. It has been known to modern man since 1856. Work that has been conducted at the site represents some of the first explorations of prehistoric Hohokam platform mounds. The site once covered more than 600 acres. The current site is one percent of its original footprint, or 6.024 acres.

The State Heritage Grant will fund these improvements including the layout of a decomposed granite maintenance area and path, underground electrical conduit, and identification and stabilization of eroding slopes. Materials to be used on-site will take into consideration the color of granite used to ensure minimal impact to the sensitive nature of the site. To take advantage of the available funding, we have proposed a very aggressive schedule so the funds are expended by December 31, 2009.

Community Impact – This project has had tremendous support from the professional community (local, state and national), the local neighborhood residing in District 1 and will be a positive influence for the community and the state. The implications of losing such a treasure are immeasurable. Other lesser community impacts are anticipated to include some limited construction noise. Once work is started, the project is anticipated to be completed in twenty-one (21) calendar days.

Alternatives


An alternative to this project would be to not move forward with Phase I. Given that the site is open to the public and educational events, a staging area and delineated path will define the boundaries of access, preventing the potential for trail erosion as well as the stabilization of exposed slopes. Failure to complete this work would result in further exposure to the elements, which in turn will increase the cost of restoration in the future. For these reasons, this alternative is not recommended.

Fiscal Impact

The total award amount is \$52,508.50, comprised of the low bid of \$47,735.00 plus \$4,773.50 (10% allowance for change orders). Funding is available utilizing the State Heritage Fund Grant (\$100,000).

Coordinated With

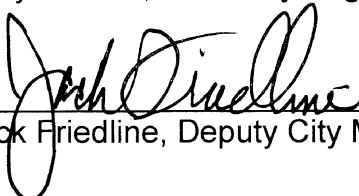
The Arts and Cultural Department as well as the Arizona Museum of Natural History.

for 

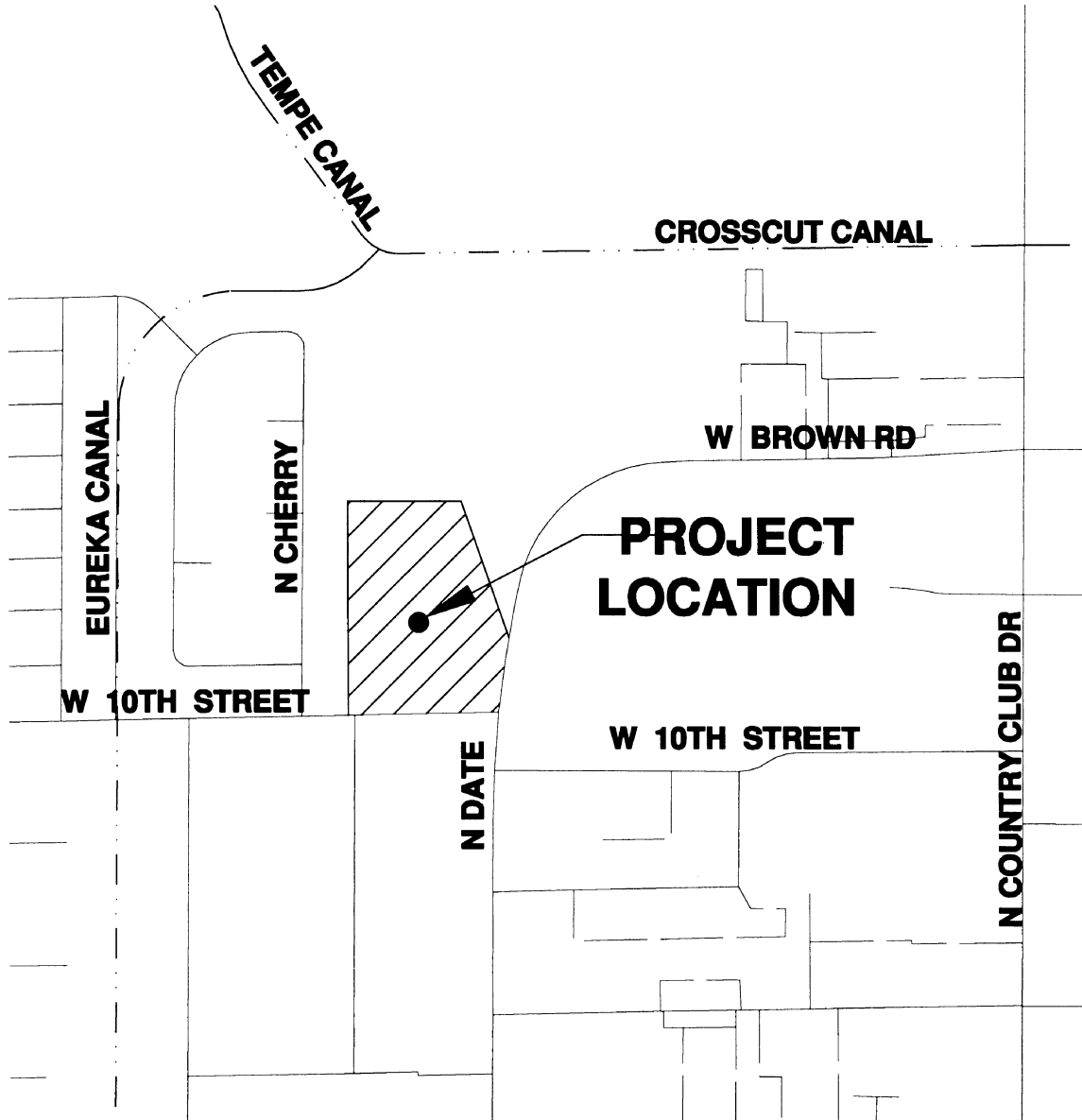
Kelly Jensen, Asst. City Engineer



Beth Huning, City Engineer



Jack Friedline, Deputy City Manager



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**PROJECT LOCATION MAP
MESA GRANDE RUINS
PHASE 1 - STAGING AREA AND PATH
PROJECT NO. 01-801-001**



CITY OF MESA
MESA, ARIZONA

MESA GRANDE RUINS PHASE 1, 10TH STREET AND BROWN ROAD

PROJECT NO. 01-801-001

Tabulation of Bids Received, Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 1:00 P.M.

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|---|---------------------|
| ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE | \$100,500.00 |
| 1. KLASS Services Inc. | \$47,735.00 |
| 2. Woods Construction Co. | \$72,755.00 |
| 3. Desert States Contracting | \$82,955.00 |
| 4. Aloha Grading Inc. | \$92,875.00 |
| 5. J. Banicki Construction Inc. | \$102,880.00 |
| 6. Caymus Corporation – Bid Not Read – Did not acknowledge addenda | |
| 7. G & G Specialty Contractors – Bid Not Read – Did not acknowledge addendum #3 | |
| 8. Renovation Solutions Group Inc. – Bid Rejected – Wrong License | |