Grant Application – Funding Opportunity: R21AS00300

City of Aliso Viejo Landscape Renovation

Moy Yahya

12 Journey, Suite 100

Aliso Viejo CA 92656

(949) 425-2538

Myahya@avcity.org

DUNS #: 031628279

3/18/21
1133

Table of Contents

Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

Executive Summary

March 8, 2021

Applicant: City of Aliso Viejo

City: Aliso Viejo

County: Orange County; State: CA

Applicant Status: Category A

Tentative Project Dates: February 2020 – December 2020

Federal Facility Location: No

The City of Aliso Viejo, located in Southern California, is planning to fully renovate the landscaping around City Hall. Work on this project will start in early 2022 and will involve the replacement of almost all plant material with drought-resistant species. The renovation will reduce overall water usage, improve water efficiency, and reduce maintenance costs. In addition to the aesthetic value provided by the project upon completion in late 2022, the City's project will further implement an overhaul of current irrigation systems with a new state-of-the-art drip irrigation system, greatly enhancing efficiency in water usage. The project meets the City's goals of long-term water efficiency.

Project Location: The City of Aliso Viejo Landscape Renovation Project is located at Aliso Viejo's City Hall in Southern Orange County, California at 12 Journey, Aliso Viejo, CA 92679. The project latitude is 33°34'04.4"N and longitude is 117°43'39.9"W.

Project Description

The main work of the project focuses on the replacement of the current landscaping. To accomplish this, 9,865 square feet of the current landscaping will be cleared and grubbed. 1,985 square feet of grouted rock cobble will be installed while the other 7,880 square feet will have the soil prepped for the new plant species as well as undergoing fine grading. In addition, the new irrigation system will be built to supplement the 7,880 square feet of open land. A 390 feet linear root barrier will be installed as well. For the new plant species, 376 1-Gallon shrubs, 1,224 5-Gallon shrubs, 105 15-Gallon shrubs, and 13 24-inch box trees will be planted. A 3-inch city-approved mulch layer will be applied over the plants. Plant species include achillea, agave attenuata, callistemon, carissa, lantana yellow, nandina domestica, rhaphiolepis pink, galvezia, dianella tasmanica, salvia greggii, grevillea lanigera, stipa gigantea, lantana red, and arbutus unedo trees.

E.1.1. Evaluation Criterion A—Project Benefits

The proposed project will reduce overall water usage by the City through the replacement of the current landscaping with drought-resistant species as well as grouted rock cobble. In addition, the replacement and implementation of the new drip-irrigation system with meters will allow the City to better control and track water usage for landscape maintenance. With a reduced expenditure of water, the long-term benefits include a corresponding reduction in maintenance costs which will free up funds for different projects including water efficiency projects, to invest in the City. In addition, the improvements to water efficiency will also free up the existing local water supply managed by the Moulton Niguel Water District for other residential, commercial, and municipal uses.

In addition to the City promoting the proposed project and its benefits, as visitors and residents pass by City Hall, they will be able to see the results of the City's commitment to long term water efficiency. Not only will it be aesthetically pleasing but the benefits of solid public outreach through example will hopefully inspire other residents and businesses to adapt their landscaping to a more water efficient standard.

E.1.2. Evaluation Criterion B—Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

The proposed project addresses the City's long-term goals of improving water efficiency in its landscaping throughout the entire city. Environmental Services of the City of Aliso Viejo had established a Water Efficient Landscape Program which includes drafted regulations and goals. As the Program is implemented throughout the City through the efforts of Environmental staff, it was decided that eventually City facilities should also undergo retrofits and renovations as part of the Program. Though originally planned conceptually and scheduled for initial reviews in 2019 and 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic halted the project. Due to budgetary issues arising

from the pandemic, the project was shelved for the time being. However, with vaccine rollout now occurring throughout California, as well as the opportunity of the grant arising, the Project was re-prioritized to commence in 2022 in line with the planned goals and regulations of the Program.

E.1.3. Evaluation Criterion C—Project Implementation

Estimated Project Schedule

Stage	Estimated Date
Pre-Planning	February 2022
Mobilization	March 2022
Clearing & Grubbing	Early April 2022
Apply Grouted Rock Cobble	April 2022
Soil Prep & Fine Grading	Late April to Early May 2022
Install Automatic Irrigation	May 2022
Install Root Barrier	Late May 2022
Plant Shrubs and Trees	Early June 2022
Install Mulch Layer	June 2022
30-Day Maintenance	June to Early July 2022
Closeout	July 2022

The implementation plan is tentatively set to occur throughout the first half of 2022. The first two months will be dedicated for pre-planning, administrative tasks, and pulling the necessary permits to begin the project. It is also the time allocated to mobilizing to start the project. Throughout early Spring 2022, the project will start with the clearing and grubbing as well as moving forward with the soil preparation and fine grading. In late Spring 2022, installation of irrigation, the root barrier as well as the actual planting will move forward. It is our hope that by early Summer 2022, we will be finalizing the installation of the mulch layer and observing the results through post-installation maintenance before closing the project out.

Permits needed for this project include the City's water quality permit (Stormwater NPDES), the construction and demolition permit (CalRecycle Waste Diversion), and the landscaping permit (Landscape Water Efficient Ordinance). Although this is a City project, the City still assigns staff and licensed contractors to review permit documents and plans to ensure compliance with all local, state and federal regulations. To obtain the water quality permit, staff will examine pre-construction setup as well as the best management practices (BMPs). Throughout project development, staff will conduct inspections to ensure that work on the project is within regulation compliance. For the construction and demolition permit, staff will assure construction and demolition waste are being diverted from landfills and recycled as required by the State of California regulation (CalRecycle). To obtain the landscaping permit,

landscaping plans will have to reviewed by City staff, licensed landscape architects, local water district, fire authority and safety offices to assure compliance with all regulations and the City's municipal codes. In addition, the approval of the MNWD will also be inspecting the final landscape project to assure compliance with the District water conservation and regulations. Once approval is gained, along with a landscaping bond and a refundable deposit for inspections, the permit will be issued.

Design work for the project is being conducted by a City contractor though there has been no engineering work performed specifically for the proposed project. There has been no new policies or administrative actions developed to implement the project. Regarding environmental and cultural resource compliance, the scale of the project is small so it would not trigger the need for a CEQA/NEPA study or a cultural resources study as this is a landscaping project. As such, this was not discussed with the local Reclamation office though if is needed, then a discussion would be accommodated.

E.1.4. Evaluation Criterion D— Nexus to Reclamation

While the proposed project is not directly connected with a Reclamation basin, it does fall under the general initiative of Reclamation in its small-scale water efficiency goals. The proposed project will correlate with the stated goals of the Reclamation initiative in improving general water efficiency. Through such improvements, it can be assumed that the general water supply will be increased for Reclamation through the proposed project assisting the local water district, Moulton Niguel Water District, which does have a connection with Reclamation water. There are no tribes relevant in the proposed project's area.

Project Budget

Funding Plans

Non-Federal funding source for the proposed project will come from the City of Aliso Viejo's Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget. Funding will be drawn from the Capital Improvement Project budget, which is funded through the City's general fund / tax revenue. There are no sources of funding provided by third parties and we do not anticipate any costs incurred prior to award.

Budget Proposal

Source	Amount
Cost to be reimbursed with Federal Funding	$75,000.00
Costs to be paid by the applicant (Local Match)	$125,000.00
Value of third-party contributions	$0.00
Total Project Cost	$200,000.00

ESTIMATED BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION			UNIT	
		QUANTITY	UNIT	PRICE	TOTAL
CONSTRUCTION					
Mobilization		1	LS	$ 25,000.00	$ 25,000.00
Clearing & Grubbing		8,221	SF	$ 1.50	$ 12,331.50
Grouted Rock Cobble		1,850	SF	$ 15.00	$ 27,750.00
Soil Prep / Fine Grading		7,466	SF	$ 0.25	$ 1,866.50
Automatic Irrigation		671	SF	$ 12.00	$ 8,052.00
Automatic Irrigation		6,775	SF	$ 12.00	$ 81,300.00
SUPPLIES / MATERIALS					
Linear Root Barrier		390	LF	$ 12.00	$ 4,680.00
1 gal. shrubs		350	EA	$ 10.00	$ 3,500.00
5 gal. shrubs		450	EA	$ 20.00	$ 9,000.00
15 gal. shrubs		80	EA	$ 100.00	$ 8,000.00
24" box trees		13	EA	$ 300.00	$ 3,900.00
3" Mulch Layer		50	CY	$ 60.00	$ 3,000.00

30-Day Maintenance		7,000	SF	$ 0.18	$ 1,260.00
CONTRACTUAL					
Contractual (Professional Services)		1		$ 10,360.00	$ 10,360.00
			SUB TOTAL		$ 200,000.00

Budget Narrative

Total project cost is established at $200,000.00 with $125,000.00 to be paid by the City with the anticipation of $75,000.00 to be reimbursed through Federal funding. There are no third-party contributions to the project. Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of City personnel are not applicable for this project as the City intends to contract out this project to a City contractor. There are no applicable equipment costs associated with the City for this project. In regard to supplies and materials for the current scope of the project, the contractor has quoted $12.00 per linear foot for the root barrier, $10.00 per 1-gallon shrub, $20.00 per 5-gallon shrub, $100.00 per 15-gallon shrub, and $300.00 per 24-inch box tree. In addition, the City was quoted $60.00 per cubic yard for the 3-inch mulch layer and $0.18 per square foot for the post-construction 30-day maintenance. Current scope of the project includes 390 linear feet for the root barrier, 350 1-gallon shrubs, 450 5-gallon shrubs, 80 15-gallon shrubs, 13 box trees, and 50 cubic yards for the mulch layer. This comes out to an estimated total of $33,340.00 for supplies. These supplies are necessary to accomplish the conversion of the current landscaping into one more water efficient.

With a projected construction start date of February 2022, the project is estimated to take eight months or less to complete construction and closeout, including administrative work. Contractor and budget estimates are reviewed and chosen by the City per its competitive design selection process and standard procurement per State standards. Current scope of the project entails $25,000.00 for mobilization, clearing and grubbing at $1.50 per square feet (8,221 square feet projected), application of grouted rock cobble at $15.00 per square feet (1,850 square feet projected), $0.25 per square feet for soil preparation and fine grading (7,466 square feet projected), and installation of automatic irrigation at $12.00 per square feet (7,446 square feet projected). Current scope of the project projects $156,300.00 for construction per the submitted designs. Each stage is projected to take about a month with overlaps though there are gaps to ensure space for contingency, possible expanded scope, as well as compliance with regulatory inspections.

As stated previously, there are no third-party contributions for this project. In addition, the scale of the project is small so it would not trigger the need for a CEQA/NEPA study or a cultural resources study as this is a landscaping project. As such, this was not discussed with the local Reclamation office though if is needed, then a discussion would be accommodated, and any costs incurred will be remitted per Reclamation guidelines. There is no anticipation of any non-categorical expenses or indirect costs being incurred.

D.2.2.6. Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

Per the CEQA/NEPA requirements, the scale of this project qualifies under a categorical exemption as a Class 1, Section H (existing landscaping); the City does not believe that this would trigger the need for an environmental study or cultural resources study. However, if Reclamation differs in its assessment, then the City will of course defer to Reclamation's judgement and comply with any studies required. The clearing of the current landscaping and fine grading operation will disturb a minimal amount of soil. However, to protect nearby buildings, existing water supplies and habitats, the City will have pre-construction and construction inspections to ensure that secondary containment ex. dust barriers are established, and that all best management practices (BMPs) are being followed per State guidelines. The City is not aware of any threatened or endangered species in the project area. The project area is not a designated critical habitat. In addition, there are no wetlands or Waters of the United States that fall within the project boundaries. The water delivery system of Aliso Viejo was built approximately in the late 1980s. The project scope does not include any modifications to individual features of the irrigation system.

D.2.2.7. Required Permits or Approvals

Permits needed will include the water quality permit, the construction and demolition permit, and the landscaping permit. Although this is a City project, the City still assigns staff to review the permit submittals to ensure compliance with all regulations. To obtain the water quality permit, staff will examine pre-construction setup as well as the best management practices (BMPs). Throughout project development, staff will conduct inspections to ensure that work on the project is within environmental compliance. For the construction and demolition permit, staff will assess an amount to be collected as a refundable deposit. Once the project is completed, receipts showing that at least seventy-five percent of generated waste was diverted from a landfill will allow the deposit to be refunded and the permit to be closed out. To obtain the landscaping permit, landscaping plans will have to reviewed by Public Works, Planning, and the OCSD to comply with the City's ordinances. In addition, the approval of the

Moulton Niguel Water District would also be needed. Once approval is gained, along with a landscaping bond and a refundable deposit for inspections, the permit will be issued.

D.2.2.8. Official Resolution

Sam.gov account is registered.

Resolution by City Council of Aliso Viejo will be submitted for consideration and approval at the March 17 Council meeting

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALISO VIEJO, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FOR THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION SMALL-SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY PROJECTS GRANT FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT – CITY HALL LANDSCAPING PROJECT

WHEREAS, U.S. Department of the Interior's 2021 WaterSMART Program, dated January 28, 2021, and is known and cited as the 2021 Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Grants makes funds available through the Secure Water Act to help encourage small-scale projects throughout the nation which improves water efficiency and increases water supply; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Grants Program consists of funding purchases and installation related to projects with goals that improves local water efficiency and water supply; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation ("Reclamation") has established the procedures and criteria for reviewing proposals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aliso Viejo possesses authority to nominate improvement projects that have a stated benefit nexus to water supply and efficiency and construct the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, by formal action, the City Council of the City of Aliso Viejo authorizes the nomination of Capital Improvement – City Hall Landscaping Project including all understanding and assurances contained therein, and authorizes the person identified as the official representative of the City of Aliso Viejo to act in connection with the nomination and to provide such additional information as may be required; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aliso Viejo will maintain and operate the equipment acquired and installed for the Capital Improvement – City Hall Landscaping Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aliso Viejo will give Reclamation's representatives access to and the right to exam all records, books, papers, or documents related to the funded Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aliso Viejo will cause work on the project to be commenced within a reasonable time after receipt of notification from Reclamation and ensure that the project is completed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Aliso Viejo will comply, where applicable, with provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the American with Disabilities Act, and any other federal, state, and/or local laws, rules and/or regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALISO VIEJO, hereby authorizes the Environmental Programs Manager as the official representative of the City of Aliso Viejo to apply for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Grant for the Capital Improvement – City Hall Landscaping Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALISO VIEJO, agrees to fund its share of the project costs and any additional costs over the identified programmed amount.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of March, 2021.

Tiffany Ackley
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Scott C. Smith
City Attorney

ATTEST:

Mitzi Ortiz, MMC
City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss.
CITY OF ALISO VIEJO)

I, MITZI ORTIZ, City Clerk of the City of Aliso Viejo, California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that foregoing Resolution No. 2021-08 was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Aliso Viejo at their regular meeting held on the 17th day of March, 2021, by the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: Mayor Ackley, Mayor Pro Tem Chun, Councilmembers Harrington, Hurt and Munzing

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MITZI ORTIZ, MMC
CITY CLERK

(SEAL)