December 18, 2018

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, Ca 94903

SUBJECT: Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2.18 of the County Code Delegation of Authority to Award Informal Construction Contracts up to $200,000

Dear Board Members;

RECOMMENDATION: (1) Hold a public hearing to consider amending Section 2.18 of the County Code delegating authority to award informal construction contracts up to $200,000; (2) approve the requested amendment and authorize your president to sign the attached ordinance; (3) direct Clerk of the Board to publish adoption of ordinance amendment within 15 days of board approval.

SUMMARY: Your board adopted the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) pursuant to the State Public Contract Code in 1991 by Ordinance 3074. This code provides for an informal bidding and award process for construction contracts below a specified limit. The California State Legislature has voted to increase the informal bidding minimum from $175,000 to $200,000. The increase allows the Director of Public Works the ability to implement smaller projects more quickly, efficiently and more cost effectively than required under a formal bidding process.

The informal bidding process is subject to very specific constraints identified under the Public Contracts Code. Staff is obliged to maintain a list of qualified contractors and to notify them of informal bids. In addition, construction trade journals specified in Section 22036 of the Public Contracts Code must be mailed a notice inviting informal bids. The advertising period is truncated to 10 days compared to the 30 days required for formal bidding. Contracts subject to the formal bidding process require more detailed plans and specification and are subject to formal approval by your board.

On December 4, your Board conducted the first reading of an ordinance which would amend the County Code to delegate authority to award informal construction contracts up to $200,000. All other bidding, noticing and award procedures as specified in other sections of the Public Contract Code and the Marin County Code would remain unchanged.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT: There is no impact to the general fund.

REVIEWED BY: [ ] Administrator’s Office [X] N/A
[X] Department of Finance [X] N/A
[ ] County Counsel [ ] N/A
[X] Human Resources [X] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Pauletta Jordan
Procurement Manager