THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: June 13, 2023

Subject: Esri, INC for 3-year Contract for GIS Software Maintenance

Staff Resource(s): Holly Barham, Department Director and Christen Watts, GIS Manager, Information Technology Services

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three-year contract with ESRI, Inc. for GIS software maintenance.

Background:

- On August 22, 2017, the City Council approved Resolution No. 17-185 ESRI, Inc. for a three-year contract for GIS software maintenance.
- On May 26, 2020, Council approved Resolution No. 20-87 to renew the GIS contract with ESRI, Inc. for an additional three years.
- Currently, the ESRI software is how spatial assets and data are collected, analyzed, and visualized throughout the City, including recent updates to the new Fire Station 13 service areas.
- This contract would allow the City of Asheville to continue to enhance its GIS program using the ESRI software for GIS dashboards, Map Asheville, the open data program, water utility management, public safety, asset management, equity mapping and storytelling, and much more.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Because of the standardization needed to maintain the City's current GIS maps, no outreach was conducted.
- A waiver was approved by the City Manager's Office on April 13, 2023, in accordance with Outreach Exceptions Per State Statute § 143-129. Procedure for letting of public contracts (e) 6. iii.
- ESRIi provides a competitive enterprise license agreement for public sector clients.
- Changing the City's underlying GIS infrastructure would result in significant costs in terms of lost productivity and the need to rebuild existing GIS assets.

Council Goal(s):

- Improve/Expand Core Services

Committee(s):

- N/A

Pro(s):

- Increased support of departmental business requirements via greater options for GIS software licensing.
- Ability to install additional software without additional purchases.
- Mitigate impacts of increasing software maintenance costs.

Con(s):

- If continued funding for the future is not appropriated, some staff will lose the ability to utilize GIS software and data.
- The City would lose many highly-used public GIS platforms such as the Open Data Portal, Map Asheville, Equity Story Maps, Climate Justice Index Map, and the Police Transparency Dashboard. As well as internal resources such as Water Infrastructure maps and Asset Management services for Capital Projects and Public Works.
- Without access to ESRI, the City would lose GIS integration with current Asset Management software, Cityworks and Asset Essentials.

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for the first year of this contract ($62,375 in total) is planned in the Water Services Fund ($5,675) and Information Technology Services operating budget ($56,700) for FY 2023-2024.
- Future years will be planned in the annual budget development process.
- The total three-year contract cost is $187,125 .

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to approve the adoption of the resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter an agreement with ESRI, Inc. for a 3-year contract for GIS Software Maintenance.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 23-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ESRI, INC. FOR A 3-YEAR CONTRACT FOR GIS SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. sec 160A-20 to enter into contracts with private entities to perform any authorized functions; and

WHEREAS the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. sec 143-129 (e) 6. iii for letting of public contracts bidding and standardization; and

WHEREAS, the City had a 3-year contract with Esri, Inc. for GIS software maintenance, and staff recommends a new 3-year contract; and

WHEREAS, the software maintenance contract provides for a fixed rate maintenance cost for the next 3 years; and

WHEREAS, the current contract between the City of Asheville and Esri, Inc. will be expiring, and both parties wish to enter into a new 3-year contract for maintenance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Esri, Inc. on behalf of the City of Asheville for the purpose of providing a fixed rate maintenance contract for GIS software in the amount of $62,375.00 per year for the next 3 years, the total amount of $187,125.00.

Read, approved and adopted this the 13th day of June, 2023.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney