



City of Emeryville

CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 18, 2022

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor John Bauters

SUBJECT: Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Approving A Legal Services Agreement With Jarvis Fay & Gibson, LLP, For Interim City Attorney Services

RECOMMENDATION

Approve by resolution the Legal Services Agreement with Jarvis Fay & Gibson, LLP for Interim City Attorney Services.

BACKGROUND

Following the resignation of the City Attorney early last spring, the City Council approved an agreement with Assistant City Attorney Andrea Visveshwara for the period of April 24, 2021 through October 31, 2021 which provided that she would act as Interim City Attorney during that time. That agreement was later extended through January 31, 2022, to accommodate the ongoing City Attorney recruitment process.

After six years with the City, including the last nine months as the Interim City Attorney, Assistant City Attorney Visveshwara will be leaving for other employment. The recruitment process for the City Attorney position is not yet complete, so the City needs to procure legal services from outside counsel until a new City Attorney is selected and hired.

Christie Crawl of Jarvis Fay & Gibson, LLP has advised the City on land use projects and California Environmental Quality Act issues over the past several years and has been advising the Planning Commission and Community Development Department for the past nine months. Her firm has also been retained frequently by the City of Emeryville as outside counsel to advise on a variety of other legal issues since 2014.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Legal Services Agreement (Exhibit A to the Resolution, "Agreement") provides that Christie Crawl shall serve as the Interim City Attorney from February 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022. The Agreement also states that the City can terminate the

Agreement at any time, including upon hiring and onboarding a new City Attorney. Finally, the Agreement provides for a potential extension upon approval by the City Council.

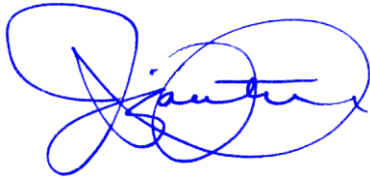
FISCAL IMPACT

The Agreement provides that invoices from Jarvis Fay & Gibson, LLP shall not exceed a total of \$126,000 for the three-month contract period.

CONCLUSION

I recommend approval of the Resolution attached hereto as Attachment 1.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:



Mayor John Bauters

Attachments:

1. Draft Resolution
Exhibit A: Legal Services Agreement