

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

November 16, 2010

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** City Manager

Prepared by: Director of Public Works  City Engineer

**SUBJECT: NORTHWEST FIRE STATION #3  
BID NO. 2011/04  
CALL FOR BIDS**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council give approval to call for bids on the plans and specifications for Bid No. 2011/04, Northwest Fire Station #3.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The northern area of the City is currently serviced by Fire Station #3, which is located at the corner of North College Drive and Vickie Avenue, directly across from Rice Elementary School. The existing Fire Station #3 is a residential structure that was converted to a Fire Station in 1980 and then remodeled in 2002. A new apparatus bay was constructed as part of that project.

The City updated its Standards of Cover Study in March 2000. This study identified the importance of rapid response to the preservation of life and property within the City of Santa Maria. The goal of a five-minute total response time would place first-due fire apparatus on-scene prior to or at flashover during fire incidents, and before brain death is irreversible in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) incidents. The existing Fire Station #3 was found to be insufficient in meeting this standard, with regard to both population and geographic distribution.

In view of the data showing that Fire Station #3 handled 33.2% of all incident workload, the study recommended the relocation of Fire Station #3 (Northwest) and the addition of a new Fire Station #5 (Northeast). The result of the City's implementation of these recommendations would be:

- Response times within five minutes would improve from 67-78% to over 90%.
- Population served within a five-minute response time would improve from 73% to approximately 94%.
- Geographic coverage based upon five-minute response times would improve from 55% to approximately 78%.

The study also identified funding challenges associated with achieving these improvements. In 2009, the City of Santa Maria was awarded \$4,368,907 of grant funds from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA) for the construction of two new fire stations. Included in this funding is a grant secured from the Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant Program which is authorized by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009.

On October 6, 2009, the City Council approved the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change for a portion of city-owned land at the southeast corner of Preisker Park. This new location (Northwest Fire Station #3) would allow the Fire Department to relocate the crews currently operating out of Fire Station #3, and thereby achieve the five-minute total response time to the population served. With the construction of another new fire station currently planned to be built at the corner of Donovan Road and Suey Crossing Road (Northeast Fire Station #5), the City of Santa Maria will meet the geographic distribution standard, as well as population and response time standards.

When the Fire Station #3 crew is relocated to the Northwest Fire Station, the City of Santa Maria will need to find a new use for the existing facility. American Medical Response (AMR) has expressed an interest in locating a satellite office at this location to better provide ambulance service to the northern portions of the city. Alternately, the property could be disposed as a surplus asset.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

This project consists of the construction of a 6,579 SF Fire Station located at 2305 North Preisker Lane. The proposed fire station will include 3,079 SF of living space and 3,500 SF of apparatus space, including a work and storage area. The project site encompasses approximately 1.2 acres in the southeast corner of the 38.9-acre Preisker Park.

The project is scheduled as follows:

Council Approval and Call for Bids:	11/16/10
Bid Opening: 2:00 p.m., Tuesday	01/25/11
Council Award of Contract:	02/15/11
Construction Period Allowance:	280 CALENDAR DAYS

Pursuant to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), it has been determined that a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) is the appropriate environmental document for this project, and pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), it has been determined that this project is Categorically Exempt.

Plans and specifications for this project are available for viewing in the office of the Chief Deputy City Clerk.

#### **Alternatives**

The alternative to the recommended action would be not to call for bids for this project. The result of this action would be to cancel the project and lose the grant funding.

#### **Fiscal Considerations**

Funds for this budgeted project are provided from Account Nos. 027-009-020-52-05 (Growth Mitigation-NW Fire Station), 801-009-020-52-27 (Capital Projects-Fire Station #3 Construction), 948-005-050-09-04 (CDBG Fire Station #3), 047-005-050-52-01 (Grant CDBG-R – NW Fire Station), and 047-009-020-52-01 (Grant ARRA-Fire Stations). The

funding sources are from Growth Mitigation, Capital Projects, ARRA-Fire Stations, and ARRA CDBG-R.

#### Impact to the Community

The City Council has acted to improve emergency response conditions in the City, as identified in the Standards of Cover Study, with several capital improvement projects: facility modernization and construction of the new living space addition at Fire Station #2 in 2000 (416 West Carmen Lane); construction of the new Fire Station #1 in 2002 (314 West Cook Street); construction of the new Fire Station #4 in 2005 (2637 South College Drive); and the operation of the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) facility at the Santa Maria Airport. These new facilities enhance public safety services in the City of Santa Maria.

The proposed Northwest Fire Station #3 will allow the Fire Department to relocate crew and equipment from the current Fire Station on North College Drive to Preisker Lane to increase response times and better serve the northwest area of the City of Santa Maria. This project will significantly improve the ability of the City of Santa Maria to preserve life and protect property. It also could lower insurance premiums currently paid by residents. The fire station to be built on East Donovan Road will cover the northeast portion of the City.

#### Other Agency Review

FEMA has reviewed and approved the proposed construction of Northwest Fire Station #3.



DAVID J. WHITEHEAD, P.E.  
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1. News Release
- xc: Chief Deputy City Clerk  
Streets and Facilities Supervisor  
Fire Chief  
Community Programs Manager



# SANTA MARIA

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## News

### NEWS RELEASE November 16, 2010

PROJECT TITLE:     **NORTHWEST FIRE STATION #3**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project consists of the construction of a 6,579 SF Fire Station located at 2305 North Preisker Lane. The proposed fire station will include 3,079 SF of living space and 3,500 SF of apparatus space, including a work and storage area, and all work necessary to render the facility complete and operational.

The City Council is being asked to call for bids for the above work at its regular meeting of **11/16/10**. Bids will be opened at 2:00 p.m. on **01/25/11**, and award/advisement/rejection of contract is scheduled for the **02/15/11** Council Meeting. The specifications require that all work be completed within **280 CALENDAR DAYS**.

(The City does not wish to publicize the Engineer's Estimate of the project cost since this information may tend to influence the number and nature of bids received.)

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#### SUPPLEMENTARY PRESS RELEASE

On XX/XX/XX bids from -XX- contractors were opened by the City Clerk of the City of Santa Maria as follows:

_____	<b><u>\$XXX,XXX.XX</u></b>
_____	<b><u>\$XXX,XXX.XX</u></b>
_____	<b><u>\$XXX,XXX.XX</u></b>

- At its XX/XX/XX meeting, the City Council will consider a staff recommendation to award the contract to the low bidder.
- These bids have been taken under advisement by the City.
- Bid(s) received have been rejected by the City.

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