

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

JANUARY 11, 2007 - Communications  
Little, Kwan

JANUARY 22, 2007 - Board Meeting

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INFORMATION CALENDAR

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CONSULTANTS

SUMMARY:

As an independent agency, the District desires to position itself as an influential leader to government and industry groups, particularly in the areas of water recycling, ocean-water desalination and conservation. Key to the District's success is an integrated team of governmental affairs consultants that complement staff in achieving targeted outcomes at the local level.

To best determine the District's future needs as they relate to local governmental affairs consultants, staff is in the process of conducting a thorough evaluation to identify the District's needs and consultant criteria best suited to promote the District's agenda at the local level.

Listed below is the status and recommendations regarding the process for local governmental affairs consultant selection.

Local Governmental Affairs Consultant Selection Process:

- 1) Evaluation of Current Consultants: District staff met with each of the local consulting firms currently representing the District. Each firm was provided an opportunity to outline their respective strengths, describe their accomplishments to date on behalf of the District, identify how their expertise might be better utilized by the District, and recommend strategies going forward.
- 2) Establishment of Criteria for Future Local Governmental Affairs Consultants: Staff is currently in the process of identifying legislative goals and objectives consistent with the District's overall water supply mission. With input from the Communications Committee and Board, staff will establish criteria from which to evaluate consultants in the area of local government affairs.
- 3) Identification of Candidate Firms and the Selection Process: Based on the District's needs and criteria for the selection of local governmental affairs consultants, staff will identify potential candidate firms and recommend a selection process to the Communications Committee. It is expected that such a recommendation shall occur in February 2007.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds for local governmental affairs consultants are included in the Fiscal Year 2006-07 budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on January 11, 2007 and agendaized to the January 22, 2007 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

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