



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 16, 2019 Agenda Item 1

Voting Session

Single Reading Ordinance Authorizing Award of Contract for Legislative Advocate Services

Recommended Council Action

Adopt Ordinance

Context with Key Issues

For many years, the City has contracted with a firm, Public Policy Partners, to provide legislative advocacy services at the State level. The existing contract with the firm recently expired, and the City issued a new Request for Proposals (RFP). The scope of services in the RFP included:

- Monitoring and tracking proposed legislation and actions of the General Assembly and Executive Branch that may impact the City of Takoma Park.
- Helping the City strengthen relationships with legislators and other State officials.
- Monitoring issues of importance to the City of Takoma Park.
- Working with key legislators and their staffs to ensure their appreciation of the needs of the City of Takoma Park and of the possible impact of proposed legislation on the City.
- Coordinating and/or preparing position statements and testimony for the City.
- Coaching City Councilmembers and City officials and staff on how to frame issues, present testimony and interact with legislators and State officials to successfully promote the City's interests.

We received three proposals from 1) Alexander & Cleaver, 2) Bellamy Genn, and 3) Public Policy Partners. Based on an evaluation of each of the firms' proposals, a recommendation was made to award a contract to Public Policy Partners at the quoted fixed fee price of \$30,000 for the initial year.

Council Priority

Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government

Environmental Considerations

Specific impacts will be determined based on the legislative requests of Council during the term of the contract.

Fiscal Considerations

The cost for the initial year of the contract is \$30,000. The Fiscal Year 2020 budget included \$30,000 for this purpose.

Racial Equity Considerations

It is expected that the selected firm will advocate on behalf of the Council and its established priorities, including those associated with racial equity. Specific impacts will be determined based on the legislative requests of Council during the term of the contract.

Attachments and Links

- Ordinance Authorizing Award of Contract for Legislative Advocate Services

Introduced by:

Single Reading Ordinance

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has contracted with a firm to provide legislative advocacy services at the State level for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Council has discussed various strategies to try to further the City's interests through at the State level and has found legislative advocacy efforts to be valuable and worthwhile; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for legislative advocacy services was posted in July 2019 with an August 23, 2019 deadline for submission of proposals; and

WHEREAS, we received proposals from three firms specializing in legislative advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Councilmembers reviewed the proposals received; and

WHEREAS, Public Policy Partners was determined to be the firm best suited to address the Scope of Services outlined in the Request for Proposals; and

WHEREAS, the fixed price fee for provision of the services outlined in Public Policy Partners' proposal is \$30,000 for the initial contract term.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT:

SECTION 1. The City Manager or her designee is authorized to enter into a contract with Public Policy Partners to provide legislative advocacy services as outlined in the firm's proposal for a fixed price fee of \$30,000.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2019 by roll-call vote as follows:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: