



MEMORANDUM

Resolution 23-103, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Sole Source Contract with Fritz Creek Welding in the amount of up to \$18,000 to Fabricate Custom Metal Parts for the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Public Works Director.

Item Type: Backup Memorandum
Prepared For: City Council
Date: September 27, 2023
From: Janette Keiser, PE, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Through: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager

I. Issue: The purpose of this Memorandum is to request approval to issue a sole source contract to Fritz Creek Welding to fabricate custom metal parts for the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project.

II. Background:

Ordinance 23-16(S) appropriated the following funds to design and construct the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project:

Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) Grant	\$153,307
City of Homer Matching Funds – HART Road Fund	\$ 81,313
City of Homer Matching Funds – In-kind services	<u>\$ 25,869</u>
Total	\$260,489

The goal is to develop a storm water treatment installation that filters out particulates, dissolved metals and other contaminants that storm water carries, before the water is discharged into the Slough. Field and design work has been on-going all summer to test the density, porosity and chemical constituency of the existing soils to ascertain their suitability for a nature-based storm water treatment facility. Sadly, much of the soils have been dried out over time, due to the City's construction of a gravel berm that extends into the Beluga Slough wetland. This means this site will not have the potential we had hoped for to serve its purpose so we are looking at a supplemental site, which you will hear more about later. Meanwhile, we are doing what we can with the Beluga Slough site.

There are a variety of commercial storm water treatment devices that claim to treat storm water. They are all expensive and difficult to ship from the lower 48 and have marginal efficacy. Instead of using such an off-the-shelf device, we have developed a system

constructed of custom parts fabricated locally. This not only keep the business local, it gives us a more cost effective system that provides more efficient treatment. This system consists of a large concrete vault with some stainless steel baffles, sort of like a big septic tank. The concrete tank will collect sediment that falls out of the water flow. Metal baffles will help this process. We are procuring the component parts for this system from local vendors.

The local vendor that will fabricate the metal components is Fritz Creek Welding. The components will include a stainless steel trash rack and aluminum “lamella plate assembly inserts”, both customized to fit the concrete vault. There will also be various brackets, poured in place in the concrete vault, to hold these components in place.

Homer City Code allows exceptions to be made to bidding requirements in the cases where a sole source procurements is justified, HCC 3.16.060(i). A sole source procurement is justified in this case because Fritz Creek Welding:

- a. Is uniquely qualified to fabricate the intricate metal components needed for this project;
- b. Is available to do the work in a timely manner, which is easier said than done this time of year; and
- c. Is interested in helping us achieve a successful outcome by being willing and able to collaborate with the design/fabrication team consisting of other local vendors.

Fritz Creek Welding’s cost to perform the work is deem fair and reasonable, compared to our analysis of similar work.

- III. RECOMMENDATIONS:** That the City Council approves a sole source contract to Fritz Creek Welding in the amount of up to \$18,000 to fabricate custom metal parts for the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project.