

Condensed Title:

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement for professional services with Raymond Jungles, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, for architecture, landscape architecture, and engineering services, for the planning, design, bid and award, and construction administration phases for the Miami Beach Botanical Garden Project; with funding provided from previously appropriated City Center RDA Capital Fund 365 in the FY 2008/09 Capital Budget allocated for design services.

Key Intended Outcome Supported:

To ensure well designed capital projects

Supporting Data (Surveys, Environmental Scan, etc.): More recreational opportunities is ranked by residents as one of the changes that will make Miami Beach a better place to live; 79% of residents rated recreation programs and facilities as excellent or good.

Issue:

Should the City Commission approve the Resolution ?

Item Summary/Recommendation:

One of the Miami Beach Garden Conservancy's (Conservancy) primary goals is to achieve accreditation of the Miami Beach Botanical Garden through the American Association of Museums. To this end, it has been working with the City in defining the scope of capital improvements to achieve this goal. Upon renewal of the Conservancy's Management Agreement on January 17, 2007, the City Commission directed the Administration to assist the Garden Conservancy in utilizing the remaining GO Bond funds to proceed with the Project. In the meantime, the Conservancy had conducted an extensive visioning process which produced a wish list of improvements as well as conceptual renderings for the Project. The Conservancy was also determined to engage a world renowned landscape architect to further develop the design and proceed with an internal Request-for-Proposals (RFP) process. On June 25, 2008, the Mayor and City Commission approved the issuance of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 36-07/08, for the Planning, Architectural, Engineering and Landscape Architectural services in connection with the Planning, Design, Bid and Award, and Construction Administration services at a cost not to exceed \$125,000 for certain improvements to the Miami Beach Botanical Garden Project (Project), based on a Project cost not to exceed \$1.1 Million. On August 25, 2008, pursuant to Evaluation Committee (Committee) appointments made via Letter to Commission (LTC) No. 195-2008, the Committee members convened and unanimously selected Raymond Jungles, Inc., as the top-ranked firm, Savino & Miller Design as the second-ranked, and Arquitectonica as the third-ranked. The City's Capital Improvement Office (CIP) has evaluated and negotiated the fee for professional services and finds it to be fair and reasonable and consistent with Resolution 2008-26873. As such, the Administration recommends awarding a professional services agreement to Raymond Jungles Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, for architectural, engineering, and landscape architecture services for the planning, design, bid and award, and construction administration services for the Miami Beach Botanical Gardens Project, to be funded from previously appropriated City Center RDA Capital Fund 365 in the FY 2008/09 Capital Budget.

Advisory Board Recommendation:

N/A

Financial Information:

Source of Funds:		Amount	Account
OBPI	1	\$125,000	Previously appropriated City Center RDA Capital Fund 365 account 365-2144-061357
	Total	\$125,000	

Financial Impact Summary:

City Clerk's Office Legislative Tracking:

Mario Gonzalez-Pola

Sign-Offs:

Department Director JECH	Assistant City Manager TH	City Manager
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MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: November 5, 2008

SUBJECT: **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH RAYMOND JUNGLES INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000, FOR ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, AND ENGINEERING SERVICES, FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, BID AND AWARD, AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION PHASES FOR THE MIAMI BEACH BOTANICAL GARDEN PROJECT WITH FUNDING PROVIDED FROM PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED CITY CENTER RDA CAPITAL FUND 365 IN THE FY 2008/09 CAPITAL BUDGET ALLOCATED FOR DESIGN SERVICES.**

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution.

FUNDING

Funding for this task has been previously appropriated in the FY 2008/09 Capital Budget, City Center RDA Capital Fund 365 account No. 365-2144-061357 allocated for design services.

ANALYSIS

One of the Miami Beach Garden Conservancy's (Conservancy) primary goals is to achieve accreditation of the Miami Beach Botanical Garden through the American Association of Museums. To this end, it has been working with the City in defining the scope of capital improvements to achieve this goal. Originally, a total of \$1.5 Million was allocated from the Series 2000 General Obligation Bonds to undertake the improvements. In July, 2003, following an RFQ selection process, EDAW was selected to undertake the planning and design of the facility. Contract issues between EDAW and the City led to EDAW's eventual termination for convenience, and the project being put on hold until additional funds could be identified and/or the scope revisited.

Upon renewal of the Conservancy's Management Agreement on January 17, 2007, the City Commission directed the Administration to assist the Garden Conservancy in utilizing the remaining GO Bond funds to proceed with the Project. Following the settlement with EDAW, approximately \$1.1 million remains for design and construction of the capital improvements.

Initially, it was determined that the Conservancy, acting in the capacity of a developer, would undertake the Project on behalf of the City. It was subsequently decided that given the limited funds with which to undertake the improvements, coupled with Conservancy's limited project oversight experience, that it would be within City's best interest to undertake the Project using an architect from its rotating list.

In the meantime, the Conservancy had conducted an extensive visioning process which produced a wish list of improvements as well as conceptual renderings for the Project. The Conservancy was also determined to engage a world renowned landscape architect to further develop the design and proceed with an internal Request-for-Proposals (RFP) process, which resulted in the selection of the landscape design firm of Raymond Jungles, Inc. Since the City had already selected the firm of Gurri Matute as the primary consultant from the active rotating list, it was determined that Raymond Jungles would work as the sub-consultant on the Project. Subsequent negotiations between the two firms over their respective scopes and fees failed to produce a proposed contract price that was acceptable to the City. Consequently, staff terminated further discussions with the consultants.

On June 25, 2008, the Mayor and City Commission approved the issuance of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 36-07/08, for the Planning, Architectural, Engineering and Landscape Architectural services in connection with the Planning, Design, Bid and Award, and Construction Administration services at a cost not to exceed \$125,000 for certain improvements to the Miami Beach Botanical Garden Project (Project), based on a Project cost not to exceed \$1.1 Million.

On July 14, 2008, the RFQ was issued with an opening date of August 14, 2008. A pre-proposal meeting was held on July 29, 2008, along with a site visit conducted with all prospective RFQ respondents held on August 5, 2008.

On August 25, 2008, pursuant to Evaluation Committee (Committee) appointments made via Letter to Commission (LTC) No. 195-2008, the Committee members convened and unanimously selected Raymond Jungles, Inc., as the top-ranked firm, Savino & Miller Design as the second-ranked, and Arquitectonica as the third-ranked.

Upon selection and engagement of an architectural firm, contract documents will need to be prepared, together with an estimate of probable construction costs, which will need to be reviewed and approved by the Conservancy. The Project will also be submitted for review by the Capital Improvements Projects Oversight Committee (CIPOC). Upon approval of the concept design by the City Commission, the firm will proceed with construction documents and development board approval (if needed). The construction delivery method best suited for this type of work has not yet been determined.

Proposed Scope of Work

The City intends to request Raymond Jungles Inc., to undertake the planning, design and construction oversight process for landscape improvements to the Miami Beach Botanical Garden, pursuant to the mission and vision of the Garden Conservancy, which is to provide and promote free public access to the facility; demonstrate USDA Zone 10 subtropical horticulture; promote environmental stewardship and green lifestyle; present environmental and ecological education programs for children and adults; preserve urban green space and tree canopy; and to serve as a venue for visual and performing arts, a community resource for weddings, parties and events, and a tourist destination.

To this end, the Project scope should take into consideration the Conservancy's objectives for the improvements which are as follow:

- address the Conservancy's mission and to correct problems associated with earlier landscape designs, ad hoc plant selections and a lack of community awareness;

- maximize the use of space to foster an impression that the Garden is larger than its 2.6 acres, by creating areas or "rooms" that invite exploration by visitors;
- explore the use of meandering pathways (organic materials to replace concrete);
- explore the possibility of incorporating the area running along Collins Canal, that is currently fenced off from the north side of the Garden;
- design to address peak-traffic events, including rentals for weddings, parties, corporate events, the Miami Boat Show and Art Basel. Landscape planning must incorporate functionality, traffic patterns, and plant selection for high-use areas;
- integrate certain existing areas of the Garden into the new design. Given the infrastructure of the Japanese Garden and Native Garden on the south side of the property, it is envisioned that they be enhanced and integrated into the new design but remain in the existing location, along with the pump house and its storage capacity. New landscape plants should reinforce Japanese design principles.
- attempt to mitigate the noise and fumes emanating from Miami Dade County Transit buses, which idle at the curb on the south side of the Garden;
- incorporate sustainable landscape solutions that can serve as examples for visitors to incorporate in their own landscaping at home. Orchids and bromeliads are two major plant collections;
- design should build on a wide variety of native plants, flowering trees, ground cover and lawn substitutes as well as improving the Great Lawn, very much an event space;
- design should incorporate and promote "green" concepts, including xeriscaping, composting, recycling, water and energy conservation and choice of plant materials;
- landscape design must frame the mid-century American building and provide some relief from the afternoon sun in the office on the south side of the building. The Horticulture Director needs a workspace, a potting shed plumbed to provide water and designed to provide some privacy.;
- Wish list items include additional water features, permanent and temporary outdoor art installations and landscape lighting.

CONCLUSION

The City's Capital Improvement Office (CIP) has evaluated and negotiated the fee for professional services and finds it to be fair and reasonable and consistent with Resolution 2008-26873. As such, the Administration recommends awarding a professional services agreement to Raymond Jungles Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, for architectural, engineering, and landscape architecture services for the planning, design, bid and award, and construction administration services for the Miami Beach Botanical Garden Project, to be funded from previously appropriated City Center RDA Capital Fund 365 allocated for design services in the FY 2008/09 Capital Budget.

RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED