



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Richard Mollica, Planning Director

Reviewed by: Joseph D. Toney, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Steve McClary, City Manager

Date prepared: June 15, 2023 Meeting date: June 26, 2023

Subject: Award Agreement for Wireless Communication Facility Application Review Services

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Authorize the Mayor to execute the Professional Services Agreement with Center for Municipal Solutions (CMS) for Wireless Permit (WP) and Wireless Right-of-Way Permit (WRP) application review services for a period of five years.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The services rendered by the Consultant will be funded by WP and WRP application planning fees. For services not reimbursable by application fees, funding was included in the Adopted Budget for FY 2022-23 and identified in the Proposed Budget for FY 2023-24 in Account No. 101-2001-5100 (Planning Professional Services).

**WORK PLAN:** This item was not included in the Adopted Work Plan for FY 2022-23. This project is part of normal staff operations.

**DISCUSSION:** The Planning Department oversees the processing of WP and WRP applications. Due to the technical and regulatory expertise required, the City utilizes a third-party reviewer for WP and WRP applications to ensure that the City is in compliance with Federal and State laws.

In addition, the third-party reviewer assists staff in assessing the technical aspects of applications, such as analysis of “significant gaps” in the applicant’s service, feasible alternative locations and/or design, review of radio frequency emissions reports, and

whether the applicant proposed the “least intrusive means” to achieve its technical objectives.

On September 29, 2020, the Council directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals to obtain a consultant for third-party review of WPs and WRPs. On January 11, 2021, the Council authorized the Mayor to execute agreements with The Center for Municipal Solutions and an agreement with HR Green Pacific, Inc. for WP and WRP application review services. These agreements expire on June 30, 2023.

In 2023, City staff solicited a request for proposals to obtain a consultant for third-party review of WP and WRP applications. The City received three proposals (in alphabetical order):

- Center for Municipal Solutions (CMS)
- City Advisors
- Telecom Law Firm, P.C. (TLF)

Staff reviewed the proposals and conducted interviews with all the firms. The interview panel consisted of representatives from the City’s Planning Department. Each candidate was evaluated on their interview presentation and response to the City’s RFP. In selecting a firm, staff weighed its evaluation heavily on three factors: 1) given the need for site inspection services, it is important that the firm have offices in Southern California; 2) to resolve any potential conflicts of interest, staff evaluated if the firm conducted work on behalf of the wireless industry as well as government agencies; and 3) key staff with significant technical expertise in the field. Based on staff’s evaluation, staff is recommending entering into an agreement with CMS to conduct application reviews and provide the City with general telecommunications consulting services as needed.

**SUMMARY:** Staff recommends the Council enter into an agreement with CMS for the processing of WP and WRP applications and general telecommunications consulting services as needed.

**ATTACHMENT:**

Professional Services Agreement with CMS

## AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

This Agreement is made and entered into as of July 1, 2023 by and between the City of Malibu (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and Center for Municipal Solutions (CMS) (hereinafter referred to as "Consultant").

The City and the Consultant agree as follows:

### RECITALS

A. The City does not have the personnel able and/or available to perform the services required under this Agreement.

B. The City desires to contract out for consulting services to provide expert, technical, regulatory consultation, application review, and other assistance with wireless communication facility applications.

C. The Consultant warrants to the City that it has the qualifications, experience and facilities to perform properly and timely the services under this Agreement.

D. The City desires to contract with the Consultant to perform the services as described in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City and the Consultant agree as follows:

**1.0 SCOPE OF THE CONSULTANT'S SERVICES.** The Consultant agrees to provide the services and perform the tasks set forth in the Scope of Work, attached to and made part of this Agreement, except that, to the extent that any provision in Exhibit A conflicts with this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement govern. The Scope of Work may be amended from time to time by way of a written directive from the City.

**2.0 TERM OF AGREEMENT.** This Agreement will become effective on July 1, 2023, and will remain in effect for a period of five years from said date unless otherwise expressly extended and agreed to by both parties or terminated by either party as provided herein.

**3.0 CITY AGENT.** The City Manager, or his or her designee, for the purposes of this Agreement, is the agent for the City; whenever approval or authorization is required, Consultant understands that the City Manager, or his or her designee, has the authority to provide that approval or authorization.

**4.0 COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES.** The City shall pay the Consultant for its professional services rendered and costs incurred pursuant to this Agreement in accordance with the Scope of Work's fee and cost schedule. No additional compensation shall be paid for any other expenses incurred, unless first approved by the City Manager, or his or her designee.

4.1 The Consultant shall submit to the City, by no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month, its bill for services itemizing the fees and costs incurred during the previous month. The City shall pay the Consultant all uncontested amounts set forth in the Consultant's bill within 30 days after it is received.

**5.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** The Consultant represents that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in any real property located in the City which may be affected by the services to be performed by the Consultant under this Agreement. The Consultant further represents that in performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed by it.

5.1 The Consultant represents that no City employee or official has a material financial interest in the Consultant's business. During the term of this Agreement and/or as a result of being awarded this contract, the Consultant shall not offer, encourage or accept any financial interest in the Consultant's business by any City employee or official.

5.2 If a portion of the Consultant's services called for under this Agreement shall ultimately be paid for by reimbursement from and through an agreement with a developer of any land within the City or with a City franchisee, the Consultant warrants that it has not performed any work for such developer/franchisee within the last 12 months, and shall not negotiate, offer or accept any contract or request to perform services for that identified developer/franchisee during the term of this Agreement.

## **6.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

**6.1 Termination.** Either the City Manager or the Consultant may terminate this Agreement, without cause, by giving the other party ten (10) days written notice of such termination and the effective date thereof.

6.1.1 In the event of such termination, all finished or unfinished documents, reports, photographs, films, charts, data, studies, surveys, drawings, models, maps, or other documentation prepared by or in the possession of the Consultant under this Agreement shall be returned to the City. If the City terminates this Agreement without cause, the Consultant shall prepare and shall be entitled to receive compensation pursuant to a close-out bill for services rendered and fees incurred pursuant to this Agreement through the notice of termination. If the Consultant terminates this Agreement without cause, the Consultant shall be paid only for those services completed in a manner satisfactory to the City.

6.1.2 If the Consultant or the City fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, or if the Consultant or the City violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Agreement, the Consultant or the City shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other party of such termination and specifying the effective date of such termination. The Consultant shall be entitled to receive compensation in accordance with the terms of this Agreement for any work satisfactorily completed hereunder. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Consultants shall not be relieved of liability for damage sustained by virtue of any breach of this Agreement and any payments due under this Agreement may be withheld to off-set anticipated damages.

**6.2 Non-Assignability.** The Consultant shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement without the express prior written consent of the City.

**6.3 Non-Discrimination.** The Consultant shall not discriminate as to race, creed, gender, color, national origin or sexual orientation in the performance of its services and duties pursuant to this Agreement, and will comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes of the Federal, State, County and City governments.

**6.4 Insurance.** The Consultant shall submit to the City certificates indicating compliance with the following minimum insurance requirements no less than one (1) day prior to beginning of performance under this Agreement:

(a) Workers Compensation Insurance as required by law. The Consultant shall require all subcontractors similarly to provide such compensation insurance for their respective employees.

(b) Comprehensive general and automobile liability insurance protecting the Consultant in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 for personal injury to any one person, \$1,000,000 for injuries arising out of one occurrence, and \$500,000 for property damages or a combined single limit of \$1,000,000. Each such policy of insurance shall:

1) Be issued by a financially responsible insurance company or companies admitted and authorized to do business in the State of California or which is approved in writing by City.

2) Name and list as additional insured the City, its officers and employees.

3) Specify its acts as primary insurance.

4) Contain a clause substantially in the following words: "It is hereby understood and agreed that this policy shall not be canceled nor materially changed except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the City of such cancellation or material change."

5) Cover the operations of the Consultant pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

**6.5 Indemnification.** Consultant shall indemnify, defend with counsel approved by City, and hold harmless City, its officers, agents and employees from and against any and all liability, damages, expenses, causes of action, suits, claims, costs, fees, penalties, or judgments, of any nature whatsoever, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit, brought by or owed to third parties, to the extent caused by the Consultant's negligent or wrongful performance or breach of this Agreement.

City shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Consultant, its officers, directors, agents and employees, from and against any and all liability, damages, expenses, causes of action, suits,

claims, costs, fees, penalties, or judgments, of any nature whatsoever, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit, brought by or owed to third parties, to the extent caused by the City's negligent or wrongful performance or breach of this Agreement.

**6.6 Compliance with Applicable Law.** The Consultant and the City shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes of the federal, state, county and city governments, including, without limitation, Malibu Municipal Code Chapter 5.36 Minimum Wage.

**6.7 Independent Contractor.** This Agreement is by and between the City and the Consultant and is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create the relationship of agency, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture or association, as between the City and the Consultant.

6.7.1. The Consultant shall be an independent contractor, and shall have no power to incur any debt or obligation for or on behalf of the City. Neither the City nor any of its officers or employees shall have any control over the conduct of the Consultant, or any of the Consultant's employees, except as herein set forth, and the Consultant expressly warrants not to, at any time or in any manner, represent that it, or any of its agents, servants or employees are in any manner employees of the City, it being distinctly understood that the Consultant is and shall at all times remain to the City a wholly independent contractor and the Consultant's obligations to the City are solely such as are prescribed by this Agreement.

**6.8 Copyright.** No reports, maps or other documents produced in whole or in part under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright by or on behalf of the Consultant.

**6.9 Legal Construction.**

(a) This Agreement is made and entered into in the State of California and shall in all respects be interpreted, enforced and governed under the laws of the State of California.

(b) This Agreement shall be construed without regard to the identity of the persons who drafted its various provisions. Each and every provision of this Agreement shall be construed as though each of the parties participated equally in the drafting of same, and any rule of construction that a document is to be construed against the drafting party shall not be applicable to this Agreement.

(c) The article and section, captions and headings herein have been inserted for convenience only and shall not be considered or referred to in resolving questions of interpretation or construction.

(d) Whenever in this Agreement the context may so require, the masculine gender shall be deemed to refer to and include the feminine and neuter, and the singular shall refer to and include the plural.

**6.10 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and as so executed shall constitute an agreement which shall be binding upon all parties hereto.

**6.11 Final Payment Acceptance Constitutes Release.** The acceptance by the Consultant of the final payment made under this Agreement shall operate as and be a release of the City from all claims and liabilities for compensation to the Consultant for anything done, furnished or relating to the Consultant's work or services. Acceptance of payment shall be any negotiation of the City's check or the failure to make a written extra compensation claim within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of that check. However, approval or payment by the City shall not constitute, nor be deemed, a release of the responsibility and liability of the Consultant, its employees, sub-consultants and agents for the accuracy and competency of the information provided and/or work performed; nor shall such approval or payment be deemed to be an assumption of such responsibility or liability by the City for any defect or error in the work prepared by the Consultant, its employees, sub-consultants and agents.

**6.12 Corrections.** In addition to the above indemnification obligations, the Consultant shall correct, at its expense, all errors in the work which may be disclosed during the City's review of the Consultant's report or plans. Should the Consultant fail to make such correction in a reasonably timely manner, such correction shall be made by the City, and the cost thereof shall be charged to the Consultant.

**6.13 Files.** All files of the Consultant pertaining to the City shall be and remain the property of the City. The Consultant will control the physical location of such files during the term of this Agreement and shall be entitled to retain copies of such files upon termination of this Agreement.

**6.14 Waiver; Remedies Cumulative.** Failure by a party to insist upon the performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement by the other party, irrespective of the length of time for which such failure continues, shall not constitute a waiver of such party's right to demand compliance by such other party in the future. No waiver by a party of a default or breach of the other party shall be effective or binding upon such party unless made in writing by such party, and no such waiver shall be implied from any omissions by a party to take any action with respect to such default or breach. No express written waiver of a specified default or breach shall affect any other default or breach, or cover any other period of time, other than any default or breach and/or period of time specified. All of the remedies permitted or available to a party under this Agreement, or at law or in equity, shall be cumulative and alternative, and invocation of any such right or remedy shall not constitute a waiver or election of remedies with respect to any other permitted or available right of remedy.

**6.15 Mitigation of Damages.** In all such situations arising out of this Agreement, the parties shall attempt to avoid and minimize the damages resulting from the conduct of the other party.

**6.16 Partial Invalidity.** If any provision in this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

**6.17 Attorneys' Fees.** The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that each will bear his/her or its own costs, expenses and attorneys' fees arising out of and/or connected with the negotiation, drafting and execution of the Agreement, and all matters arising out of or connected therewith except that, in the event any action is brought by any party hereto to enforce this Agreement, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in addition to all other relief to which that party or those parties may be entitled.

**6.18 Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the whole agreement between the City and the Consultant, and neither party has made any representations to the other except as expressly contained herein. Neither party, in executing or performing this Agreement, is relying upon any statement or information not contained in this Agreement. Any changes or modifications to this Agreement must be made in writing appropriately executed by both the City and the Consultant.

**6.19 Notices.** Any notice required to be given hereunder shall be deemed to have been given by depositing said notice in the United States mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

**CITY:** Steve McClary  
City Manager  
City of Malibu  
  
23825 Stuart Ranch Road  
Malibu, CA 90265-4861  
TEL (310) 456-2489 x 226  
FAX (310) 456-2760

**CONSULTANT:** Robert C. Ross  
Director of Western Operations  
Center for Municipal Solutions  
(CMS)  
1467 Mountain Meadow Drive  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
TEL (619) 318-7589  
EMAIL rcross5@cox.net

**6.20 Warranty of Authorized Signatories and Acceptance of Facsimile or Electronic Signatures.** Each of the signatories hereto warrants and represents that he or she is competent and authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the party for whom he or she purports to sign. The Parties agree that this Contract, agreements ancillary to this Contract, and related documents to be entered into in connection with this Contract will be considered signed when the signature of a party is delivered physically or by facsimile transmission or scanned and delivered via electronic mail. Such facsimile or electronic mail copies will be treated in all respects as having the same effect as an original signature.

**7.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

**7.1 Disclosure Required.** By their respective initials next to this paragraph, City and Consultant hereby acknowledge that Consultant is a “consultant” for the purposes of the California Political Reform Act because Consultant’s duties would require him or her to make one or more of the governmental decisions set forth in Fair Political Practices Commission Regulation 18700.3(a) or otherwise serves in a staff capacity for which disclosure would otherwise be required were Consultant employed by the City. Consultant hereby acknowledges his or her assuming-office, annual, and leaving-office financial reporting obligations under the California Political Reform Act and the City’s Conflict of Interest Code and agrees to comply with those obligations at his or her expense. Prior to consultant commencing services hereunder, the City’s Manager shall prepare and deliver to consultant a memorandum detailing the extent of Consultant’s disclosure obligations in accordance with the City’s Conflict of Interest Code.

City Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Consultant Initials ECR

**7.2 Disclosure not Required.** By their initials next to this paragraph, City and Consultant hereby acknowledge that Consultant is not a “consultant” for the purpose of the California Political Reform Act because Consultant’s duties and responsibilities are not within the scope of the definition of consultant in Fair Political Practice Commission Regulation 18700.3(a) and is otherwise not serving in staff capacity in accordance with the City’s Conflict of Interest Code.

City Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Consultant Initials ECR

This Agreement is executed on \_\_\_\_\_, at Malibu, California, and effective as of July 1, 2023.

CITY OF MALIBU:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BRUCE SILVERSTEIN, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
KELSEY PETTIJOHN, City Clerk  
(seal)

CONSULTANT:

*Robert C Ross*

By: Robert C. Ross, Director of Western  
Operations

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED  
BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
TREVOR RUSIN, Interim City Attorney

**EXHIBIT A**  
**SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Under the direction of the City, Consultant shall provide technical and regulatory advice to City concerning applications for telecommunications facilities as follows:

**A. APPLICATION REVIEW**

**1. Wireless Siting Application Reviews**

At the City's request and within Consultant's expertise as a wireless site application reviewer, Consultant will review wireless siting applications and provide the City with a written analysis as described below:

**2. Memorandum/Memoranda Content**

**a. Incomplete Memorandum.** Upon receipt of an application by the Consultant directly from the City, Consultant will evaluate and identify whether any items that are required in the City's wireless application are not completed by the applicant. If there are incomplete items, the Consultant will send the City an "Incomplete Memorandum" by email or an attachment to an email within:

i. nine (9) calendar days for an initial review of a wireless application that is submitted by the applicant as a small wireless facility; or

ii. twenty-one (21) calendar days for an initial review of a wireless application that are submitted by the applicant in a category that is not a small wireless facilities; or

iii. nine (9) calendar days for a resubmittal review of a wireless application that was deemed incomplete.

**b. Project Memorandum:**

Once an application is determined by the City or deemed by law to be complete, Consultant will:

i. identify the regulatory classification under which the project should be processed (i.e., Section 6409(a); Small Wireless Facility; major modification; new site; etc.); and

ii. discuss design matters, if any, that may reduce the impact of the proposed site configuration;

iii. evaluate time, place, and manner considerations for wireless sites located in the Public Right of Way;

v. assess the planned compliance with federal radio frequency exposure guidelines established by the Federal Communications Commission, and;

vi. determine any other wireless site-related issues that Consultant, in its experience and opinion, believes to be relevant or helpful to the City's review of the wireless application.

3. **Memorandum Revision:** Consultant shall, at the City's option, without an additional fee, Consultant shall prepare one revision or follow-up to the Incomplete or Project Memorandum. All additional revisions or follow-ups are charged on an hourly basis.

**4. Consultation Time:**

i. Consultant will provide consultation by telephone and/or through e-mail with the City per project at no additional cost for the flat fee portion of any project.

ii. For any project where hourly charges apply (i.e., after the flat fee portion of a project), hourly fees for consultations via telephone and/or email will apply.

It is understood by the parties that every wireless project is unique as to location and design, and some projects may not proceed all the way to an approval or denial, or the project at a given location may be moved by an applicant to a different location necessitating an entirely new project review under a separate fee.

**B. POST-APPROVAL COMPLIANCE**

As requested by City Council, Consultant shall conduct final inspections of wireless communications facilities, observe post-construction onsite RF survey, conduct noise testing as necessary for compliance with City noise ordinance and conditions of approval, assist in bringing facilities into compliance, and assist in the preparation and monitoring of Certificates of Completion for completed facilities.

**C. ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS**

As requested by the City, Consultant will attend in-person meetings subject to Consultant's availability. Meeting attendance includes travel time from Consultant's office to and from the City. Meeting attendance is billed at the hourly rates in this Agreement.

**D. GENERAL CONSULTING SERVICES**

At the City's request, Consultant will engage with the City in regards to any non-privileged communications within the competence of Consultant as determined by Consultant in any form on a time available basis of Consultant, and invoiced on an hourly basis (including travel time from Consultant's office to and from the City if necessary).

**EXHIBIT B**  
**CONSULTANT'S SCHEDULE OF FEES**

**HOURLY FEES:** Consultant shall perform all services described in Exhibit A and all other services not described in the Scope of Services but mutually agreed upon by City and Consultant on an hourly-fee basis in accordance with Schedule 1 below:

<b><u>Personnel</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>
Robert C. Ross	\$300