



# AGENDA REPORT

Community Development

<b>DATE:</b>	October 7, 2025
<b>TO:</b>	Mayor Martinez and Members of the City Council
<b>FROM:</b>	Lina Velasco, Community Development Department
<b>Subject:</b>	Legal Services Agreement Amendment No. 1 with Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP
<b>FINANCIAL IMPACT:</b>	The proposed Legal Service Agreement would be paid using fees collected by parties the City is negotiating with or via proceeds from disposition or lease transactions. Professional Services funds are allocated in the Community Development budget in (Account String: 15061219-400206)
<b>PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:</b>	June 20, 2023
<b>STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:</b>	The Community Development Department is seeking approval to execute a first amendment to the Legal Services Agreement with Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP to continue supporting staff in negotiating and representing the City in various real estate transactions, representing the City and the Successor Agency to the former Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency. The amendments would add additional fund and extend the term.
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	APPROVE a first amendment to the Legal Services Agreement with Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP, in the amount of \$400,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$800,000, with a term ending on December 31, 2028, to continue representing the City in real estate negotiations, including property disposition and/or leases

	to be paid for using deposits from negotiating parties and/or transaction proceeds – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 510-620-6706).
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**DISCUSSION:**

A Legal Services Agreement was approved by the City Council on June 20, 2023, with Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP (“Burke”), to represent the City and the Successor Agency in recent real estate transactions including the Metrowalk Phase 2, Miraflores, 12th and Macdonald, City’s Homekey project, and to support future Surplus Land Act disposition or lease projects.

To continue Burke’s support to the City and the Successor Agency, City staff is recommending a first amendment to the Legal Services Agreement to increase the budget by \$400,000, for a total contract amount of \$800,000, for a term ending December 31, 2028, to provide for representation of the City and the Successor Agency in real estate negotiations, including property disposition and/or leases and financing documents.

Burke’s attorneys have substantial experience in such matters and provide special counsel services to numerous cities, housing authorities, and other public agencies throughout the Bay Area and California on redevelopment/successor agency operational matters, real estate and affordable housing development and finance matters, and compliance with land use and related laws, including the Surplus Lands Act. In addition, the attorneys have been extremely prompt and thorough.

**SYNERGISTIC POLICIES:**

The contemplated work to be supported by Burke would help realize various strategic goals adopted by the City Council, including completing the development of Miraflores and Metrowalk Phase 2.

**DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:**

- Attachment 1 – First Amendment to the Legal Services Agreement
- Attachment 2 – Original Legal Services Agreement