

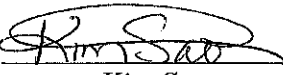
JUL 20 2021
5:00pm


City of South Gate

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA BILL

For the Regular Meeting of: July 27, 2021
Originating Department: Administrative Services

Deputy Director: 
Kim Sao

Interim City Manager: 
Chris Jeffers

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH MV CHENG & ASSOCIATES FOR AS-NEEDED TEMPORARY STAFFING

PURPOSE: To approve a Professional Services Agreement with MV Cheng & Associates to assist the City with its temporary staffing needs.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: The City Council will consider:

- a. Approving a Professional Services Agreement with MV Cheng & Associates for the procurement of professional financial and accounting staff on an as-needed and temporary basis through June 30, 2022, in an amount not-to-exceed \$300,000; and
- b. Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Professional Services Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding for this agreement will come from savings in the department salary and benefits budgets as temporary staffing will normally be used when covering vacancies or extended leaves.

ANALYSIS: None.

BACKGROUND: While positions in the Administrative Services remained unfilled, the City would like to continue to contract with MV Cheng & Associates to provide qualified professionals to assist with various budget and accounting duties for a period of one year retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

As of July 1, 2021, three positions remained unfilled: 1) Director of Administrative Services, 2) Senior Financial Analyst, and 3) Senior Accountant. The City is in various stages of recruitment for the positions. It is a critical point in time for the department as the City is still considering a proposed budget for the fiscal year, is beginning its financial year-end process and is engaged in several labor discussions dealing with leave time caps that the City Council has been previously informed on. MV Cheng & Associates has staff with municipal knowledge and expertise in the area of budget and accounting to assist the City on a temporary/interim basis.

Previous contracts (Contract No. 2021-08-CC and Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-26-AC) with MV Cheng & Associates have expired as of June 30, 2021. Staff would like to incorporate all staffing needs under one new agreement going forward. All costs are being offset

by salary and benefit savings from the vacant positions. It is projected that all positions will be filled by Spring with full-time employees.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Professional Services Agreement

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN
THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE AND MV CHENG & ASSOCIATES**

This Agreement for Professional Services ("Agreement") is made and entered into as of July 1, 2021, by and between the City of South Gate, a municipal corporation ("City"), and MV Cheng & Associates ("Consultant"). City and Consultant are sometimes hereinafter individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively as "Parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, City does not have the personnel able and/or available to perform the services required under this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Consultant warrants to City that it has a pool of sub-contractors with the skills, knowledge, qualifications, and expertise to perform properly and timely the Professional Services under this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, based on such representation, City desires to contract with Consultant to provide available professional financial and accounting staff on an as-needed basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. **SCOPE OF SERVICES.** City hereby engages Consultant, and Consultant accepts such engagement, to provide available professional staff to perform various financial and accounting tasks requested by the City. The Scope of Services may be mutually amended from time to time by both Parties in writing.
2. **COMPENSATION.** City shall pay Consultant for its professional services rendered and reasonable costs incurred pursuant to this Agreement. The cost of services shall not exceed **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00)**. No additional compensation shall be paid for any other expenses incurred unless first approved by the City Council.
 - 2.1 Travel time between the Consultant's office and City Hall shall not be billable. Consultant may request an exemption on a case-by-case basis, which shall be subject to City approval.
 - 2.2 Consultant shall be paid in accordance with the agreed-upon hourly rate included in a proposed engagement letter to be submitted by the Consultant with respect to the services requested by the City. Such hourly rates shall be between \$65-\$110 per hour depending on the assignment and skills of the professional staff.
 - 2.3 The Consultant shall submit to the City a bill of services within 15 calendar days after the end of each month. The City shall pay the consultant within forty-five (45) days of receipt of the invoice.
 - 2.4 No payment made hereunder by City to Consultant, other than the final payment, shall be construed as an acceptance by City of any work or materials, nor as

evidence of satisfactory performance by the Consultant of its obligations under this Agreement.

3. **TERM OF AGREEMENT.** This Agreement is effective retroactive to July 1, 2021 and will remain in effect through June 30, 2022, unless otherwise expressly extended and agreed to by both Parties in writing, or terminated by either Party as provided herein.

4. **CITY AGENT.** The City Manager, or his/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/her designee has the authority to provide that approval or authorization.

5. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** Consultant represents that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in any real property located within City which may be affected by the services to be performed by Consultant under this Agreement. Consultant further represents that in performance of this Agreement, no person having such interest shall be employed by it. Within ten (10) days, Consultant agrees that it will immediately notify City of any other conflict of interest that may exist or develop during the term of this Agreement.

5.1 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 Agreement, Consultant shall not offer, encourage or accept any financial interest in the Consultant's business or in this Agreement by any City employee or official.

6. **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

6.1 **Termination for Convenience.** The City may terminate this Agreement at any time without cause by giving fifteen (15) days written notice to Consultant of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents and other materials shall, at the option of City, become its property. If this Agreement is terminated by City as provided herein, Consultant will be paid the total amount of its costs as of the termination date. In no event shall the amount payable upon termination exceed the total maximum compensation provided for in this Agreement.

6.2 **Termination for Cause.**

6.2.1 The City may, by written notice to Consultant, terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement in any of the following circumstances:

- a. If Consultant fails to perform the services required by this Agreement within the time specified herein or any authorized extension thereof; or
- b. If Consultant fails to perform the services called for by this Agreement or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance

of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, and in either of these circumstances does not correct such failure within a period of ten (10) days (or such longer period as City may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from City specifying such failure.

- 6.2.2 In the event City terminates this Agreement in whole or in part as provided above in Subsection 6.2.1, City may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it may deem appropriate, services similar to those terminated.
- 6.2.3 If this Agreement is terminated as provided above in Subsection 6.2.1, City may require Consultant to provide all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, drawings, maps, photographs, reports, films, charts, sketches, computation, surveys, models, or other similar documentation prepared by Consultant. Upon such termination, Consultant shall be paid an amount equal to the value of the work performed. In ascertaining the value of the work performed up to the date of termination, consideration shall be given to both completed work and work in progress, to complete and incomplete drawings, and to other documents whether delivered to City or in possession of Consultant, and to authorized reimbursement expenses.
- 6.2.4 If, after notice of termination of the Agreement under the provisions of Subsection 6.2.1 above, it is determined, for any reason, that Consultant was not in default, or that the default was excusable, then the rights and obligations of the Parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to Subsection 6.1 above.

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

6.4 Non-Discrimination.

- 6.4.1 Consultant shall not discriminate against any employee, subcontractor, or applicant for employment because of race, creed, gender, gender identity (including gender expression), color, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, or veteran/military status, 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, and County and City governments. Consultant will take affirmative action to ensure that subcontractors and applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, disabled or age. Consultant will take affirmative action to ensure that all employment practices, including those of any subcontractors retained by Consultant to perform services under this Agreement, are free from such discrimination. Such employment practices include, but are not limited to: hiring, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment, recruitment advertising, layoff, termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including

apprenticeship.

6.4.2 The provisions of Subsection 6.4.2 above shall be included in all solicitations or advertisements placed by or on behalf of Consultant for personnel to perform any services under this Agreement. City shall have access to all documents, data and records of Consultant and its subcontractors for purposes of determining compliance with the equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination provisions of this Section, and all applicable provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 which is incorporated herein by this reference. A copy of Executive Order No. 11246 (relating to federal restrictions against discriminatory practices) is available for review and on file with the City Clerk's Office.

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

6.5.1 Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by law. Consultant shall require all subcontractors similarly to provide such workers' compensation insurance for their respective employees.

6.5.2 Comprehensive general and automotive liability insurance protecting 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, with an aggregate of \$2,000,000. Each such policy of insurance shall:

- a. Be issued by a financially responsible insurance company or companies admitted or authorized to do business in the State of California or which is approved in writing by City.
- b. Name and list as additional insured the City, its officers and employees.
- c. Specify its acts as primary insurance.
- d. Contain a clause substantially in the following words: "It is hereby understood and agreed that this policy shall not be canceled except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to City of such cancellation or material change."
- e. Cover the operations of Consultant pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

6.6 Indemnification. Consultant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless City and/or any other City agency, including other employees, officers and representatives, for/from any and all claims or actions of any kind asserted against City and/or any other City agency arising out of Consultant's (including

Consultant's employees, representatives, products and subcontractors) negligent performance under this Agreement, excepting only such claims or actions which may arise out of sole or active negligence of City and/or any other City agency, or any third parties not acting on behalf of, at the direction of, or under the control of Consultant.

6.7 Compliance With Applicable Law. Consultant and City shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes of the Federal, State, County and city governments, without regard to conflict of law principles.

6.8 Independent Contractor. This Agreement is by and between City and Consultant and is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to create the relationship of agency, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture or association, as between City and Consultant.

6.8.1. Consultant shall be an independent contractor and shall have no power to incur any debt or obligation for or on behalf of City. Neither City nor any of its officers or employees shall have any control over the conduct of Consultant, or any of Consultant's employees, except as herein set forth, and 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 City, it being distinctly understood that Consultant is and shall at all times remain to City a wholly independent contractor and Consultant's obligations to City are solely such as are prescribed by this Agreement.

6.8.2. Indemnification of CalPERS Determination - In the event that Consultant or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Consultant providing services under this Agreement claims or is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or CalPERS to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of City, Consultant shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless City for the payment of any employee and/or employer contributions for CalPERS benefits on behalf of Consultant or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as, for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions which would otherwise be the responsibility of City.

6.8.3 Business License Required. According to Title 2.08.40 of the South Gate Municipal Code, a business license will be required prior to doing business within the City, even if the business is located outside of the City. Verification of a valid South Gate business license will be required prior to start of work and any fees associated with the acquisition or maintenance of such business license shall be the sole responsibility of the Consultant.

6.9 Consultant's Personnel.

6.9.1 All services required under this Agreement will be performed by Consultant, or under Consultant's direct supervision, and all personnel shall possess the qualifications, permits and licenses required by State and local

law to perform such services, including, without limitation, a City of South Gate business license as required by the South Gate Municipal Code.

6.9.2 Consultant shall be solely responsible for the satisfactory work performance of all personnel engaged in performing services required by this Agreement, and compliance with all reasonable performance standards established by City.

6.9.3 Consultant shall be responsible for payment of all employees' and subcontractors' wages and benefits, and shall comply with all requirements pertaining to employer's liability, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and Social Security.

6.9.4 Consultant shall indemnify and hold harmless the City and all other related entities, officers, employees, and representatives from any liability, damages, claims, costs and expenses of any nature arising from alleged violations of personnel practices or of any acts or omissions by Consultant in connection with the work performed arising from this Agreement.

6.10 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 Consultant.

6.11 Legal Construction.

6.11.1 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 without regard to conflict of law principles.

6.11.2 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 the same, and any rule of construction that a document is to be construed against the drafting party shall not be applicable to this Agreement.

6.11.3 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.

6.11.4 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.

6.12 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and, as so executed, shall constitute an agreement which shall be binding upon all Parties herein.

- 6.13 Final Payment Acceptance Constitutes Release.** The acceptance by Consultant of the final payment made under this Agreement shall operate as and be a release of City from all claims and liabilities for compensation to Consultant for anything done, furnished or relating to Consultant's work or services. Acceptance of payment shall be any negotiation of 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 City shall not constitute, nor be deemed, a release of the responsibility and liability of Consultant, its employees, subcontractors 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 City for any defect or error in the work prepared by Consultant, its employees, subcontractors and agents.
- 6.14 Corrections.** In addition to the above indemnification obligations, Consultant shall correct, at its expense, all errors in the work which may be disclosed during City's review of Consultant's report or plans. Should Consultant fail to make such correction in a reasonably, timely manner, such correction shall be made by City, and the cost thereof shall be charged to the Consultant.
- 6.15 Files.** All files of Consultant pertaining to City shall be and remain the property of City. 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.
- 6.16 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 a 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.
- 6.17 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.
- 6.18 Severability.** 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.

6.19 Attorney's Fees. The Parties hereto acknowledge and agree that each will bear his or its own costs, expenses and attorney's 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 attorney's fees and costs in addition to all other relief to which that Party or those Parties may be entitled.

6.20 Entire Agreement and Amendments. This Agreement constitutes the whole agreement between City and 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 amendments, changes or modifications to this Agreement must be made in writing and appropriately executed by both City and Consultant.

6.21 Notices. Any notice required to be given hereunder shall be deemed to have been given by email transmission with confirmation of delivery and depositing said notice in the United States mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

TO CITY:

City of South Gate
Chris Jeffers
Interim City Manager
8650 California Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280
Email: cjeffers@sogate.org

WITH COURTESY COPY TO:

City Clerk's Office
Carmen Avalos
City Clerk
8650 California Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280
Email: cavalos@sogate.org

TO CONSULTANT:

MV Cheng & Associates
102 W. 24th Street
Upland, CA 91784
Email: mcheng@mvchengassociates.com

6.22 Warranty of Authorized Signatories. 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.

6.23 Consultation with Attorney. Consultant warrants and represents that it has consulted with an attorney or knowingly and voluntarily decided to forgo such a consultation.

6.24 Interpretation Against Drafting Party. City and Consultant agree that they have cooperated in the review and drafting of this Agreement. Accordingly, in the event of any ambiguity, neither Party may claim that the interpretation of this Agreement shall be construed against either Party solely because that Party drafted all or a portion of this Agreement, or the clause at issue.

7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** The effective date of this Agreement is retroactive to July 1, 2021, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2022, unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and attested by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized.

CITY OF SOUTH GATE:

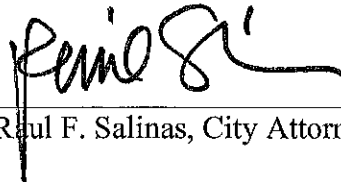
By: _____
Al Rios, Mayor

Dated: _____

ATTEST:

By: _____
Carmen Avalos, City Clerk
(SEAL)

APPROVE AS TO FORM:

By:  _____
Raul F. Salinas, City Attorney

MV CHENG & ASSOCIATES:

By: _____
Misty Cheng, President & CEO

Dated: _____