



City of Maricopa

Legislation Text

File #: CON15-37, **Version:** 2

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and possibly take action on a request to approve a contract with Nexxus Consulting L.L.C. for lobbying services in an amount not to exceed \$96,000 to be paid from General Fund, General Government, Professional and Occupational Services, (10010000-53320). Discussion and Action.

On March 3, 2009, the City of Maricopa approved an initial contract with Bob Holmes of Nexxus Consulting L.L.C. Council's primary goal in retaining a federal lobbyist firm was, and still is, to pursue federal funding for the State Route 347 Grade Separation Project and a flood control solution for the Lower Santa Cruz River. Since that time, Bob Holmes has made measurable progress in advancing Council's Legislative Platform by positioning the State Route 347 Grade Separation Project to receive funding. On June 13th, 2014, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) included \$18.8 million in the State's five-year plan. In addition, ADOT has included \$36.2 million in construction funding in 2020 in the State's five-year plan which passed on Friday, June 19, 2015. Nexxus will work to enhance our opportunity to receive additional funding for the State Route 347 project through the TIGER grant program.

Nexxus Consulting is also responsible for the granting of a Reconnaissance Study of the Lower Santa Cruz River by the US Army Corp of Engineers. The project received its initial funding of \$100,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014. This completed the feasibility study. This year, the project has received \$200,000 more to continue the feasibility study and in FY 2016, the project will receive the final \$700,000 to complete the feasibility study and move into the pre-construction engineering and design (PED) phase. We have had great success in advancing these two projects which are crucial to the future of Maricopa. Staff is looking forward to continuing our partnership with Nexxus Consulting and building on the successes achieved this past year.

Contract Summary: Our contract with Nexxus Consulting L.L.C. is structurally unchanged from the previous contract and the contract amount has not increased since 2009. If approved by Council, the City will agree to a 12 month contract at \$7,500 a month, ending on June 30, 2016. The contract includes an additional \$500 a month capacity for direct expenses not to exceed \$6,000 total. Nexxus will provide the City Manager written quarterly reports and a presentation to Council if requested. Either party may terminate the contract with a 30 day notice.

This item will be presented by Paul Jepson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director.

Staff recommends the Mayor and City Council approve a contract with Nexxus Consulting L.L.C. for lobbying services in an amount not to exceed \$96,000 to be paid from General Fund, General Government, Professional and Occupational Services, (10010000-53320).