

Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: July 30, 2008

To: Council Member Betsy Hodges, Chair, Intergovernmental Relations

Subject: Federal Representation

Recommendation: Authorize staff to enter into a contract for federal representation services with Patton Boggs in an amount not to exceed \$144,000 for 12 months and a contract extension with Lockridge Grindal Nauen in an amount of not less than \$48,000 for 12 months.

Previous Directives: Council authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals for federal representation services. The 2008 Council approved operating budget includes funding for the contract and contract extension, payable from fund 00100 8410100.

Prepared by: Gene Ranieri

Approved by: Steven Bosacker _____

Presenters in Committee: Gene Ranieri

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval Yes Date July 12, 2007

Supporting Information: The city issued a request for proposals in March 2008. Eleven firms responded to the RFP. The IGR Department formed a review committee to evaluate the proposals. The committee consisted of the City Coordinator, the IGR Director, the Mayor's Chief of Staff and the Chair and Vice Chair of the IGR Committee. The committee identified four firms for further review. The City Coordinator and IGR Director interviewed the firms at their offices in Washington, DC. Each interview lasted approximately two hours and consisted of a set of questions asked of all firms and firm specific inquiries. In addition follow-up questions and information requests were also sent to the firms. References and computer research were also checked.

Since 1999 the City of Minneapolis has retained the firm of Lockridge Grindal Naunen to provide federal representation services. The firm has assisted the city with congressional relations, federal grants and programs, and information on a variety of federal policies and issues including but not limited to airport noise, transportation and water. The firm is headquartered in Minneapolis but has a Washington DC office.

Patton Boggs is a law firm located in Washington DC. The firm is a full purpose law firm with a government relations practice. The government relations practice includes city, county, special district (transit, airports, public utilities) higher education, business and association clients. Among the cities represented by the firm are Denver, San Diego and Buffalo.

The two firms have worked cooperatively on the empowerment zone program and both have indicated that they will continue the relationship on the city's behalf.

Lockridge Grindal Nauen will continue to work closely with the state's Congressional delegation and will play a major role in implementing the city's transportation policy and project proposals.

Patton Boggs with assistance from Lockridge Grindal Nauen will assist in developing and implementing the city's federal agenda including but not limited to "earmarks," authorizations and policy proposals. Patton Boggs will also provide the city with counsel on federal grants including but not limited to tracking opportunities, monitoring applications and advocating on the city's behalf.

Dennis McGrann will be the lead for Lockridge Grindal Nauen. Marek Gootman will serve as the lead for Patton Boggs