

RESOLUTION NO. 27921

WHEREAS, on recommendation of Management, there was presented for approval, three (3)-year Contract with Loyola Marymount University covering support and advisory services in inclusivity-related data analysis, interpretation, and management practices, including revising the Los Angeles World Airports Gap and Equity Study as needed, to reflect corrected/updated datasets, for cost not to exceed \$300,000; and

WHEREAS, in March 2021, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) entered into a contract with Loyola Marymount University (LMU) to perform data discovery, data review, and deliver preliminary findings and recommendations based on a broad analysis of LAWA business ownership data. The purpose of said review was to understand the ownership demographics of business participation in LAWA opportunities, to assess the state of LAWA's business inclusion data, to obtain recommendations for improving the state of LAWA's business inclusion data, and to deliver preliminary recommendations and findings that LAWA could act on; and

WHEREAS, in November 2021, said contract's term was extended through March 2024 and amount was increased to not-to-exceed total of \$280,000 due to data challenges. Although LAWA had provided LMU with access to LAWA's vendor data systems in a timely manner, it soon became clear that the original four (4) weeks allotted were insufficient to acquire and organize the data; and

WHEREAS, that effort concluded with the creation of LAWA's Gap and Equity Study in November 2022. The study looked at a range of LAWA wealth-producing activities, including contracting, concessions, and executive leadership. It compared the share of LAWA dollars that go to minority- and women-owned companies to the ratio of minorities and women in the Los Angeles County overall population and business owner population. The study recommended race- and gender-neutral steps LAWA can take to maximize utilization of minority and women contractors and improve LAWA's data collection and housing; and

WHEREAS, the study revealed that data related to LAWA vendors and business partners are stored across multiple LAWA information systems, each set up for its dedicated purpose, such as contract compliance, vendor payment, or tracking concessions revenue. Unfortunately, there was no unique identifier used across all systems able to associate data from multiple systems with a given enterprise. Further, race/ethnicity data are largely optional to report and captured sporadically; and

WHEREAS, because of the singular experience and expertise LMU developed in the course of delivering the Gap and Equity Study, LAWA requested a sole source procurement authorization. It would be impractical to bring on and have a new advisor revise the LMU-authored Gap and Equity Study, let alone get a new advisor up to speed on the intricacies of LAWA's data systems and practices, and the datasets now-augmented by LMU. LMU's expertise can be further leveraged as LAWA implements the recommendations set forth in the Gap and Equity Study, updates the LMU-created vendor databases for a future disparity study, and validates datasets and analysis produced from the LAWA systems LMU has assessed; and

WHEREAS, under the new Contract, LMU will continue its valuable work to guide and support LAWA evaluate and validate the datasets and data analysis pertaining to economic inclusion. Priorities for LMU include revising the LAWA Gap and Equity Study, to reflect corrected/updated datasets, advising LAWA on implementing the recommendations set forth in the Gap and Equity



Study, and supporting LAWA staff to validate datasets and data approaches produced through a future LAWA disparity study and/or in support of LAWA-wide economic inclusion strategies; and

WHEREAS, LMU, through The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Center for the Study of Los Angeles (StudyLA), obtained insights into the procurement and concessions contract databases at LAWA throughout the Gap and Equity Study process. StudyLA understands how data are input into LAWA's systems; it has identified areas of non-communication from one data source to another; and it is intimately knowledgeable about the data collected on the owners of the contracted companies to augment LAWA's existing contractor data. All those factors allow StudyLA to be advantageous partners to guide and support LAWA as it works with the Disparity Study consulting firm for the duration of the study. Given StudyLA's experiences over the past three (3) years, its collaboration with LAWA proves itself valuable for the continuation of the project; and

WHEREAS, funds for the Contract are available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 LAWA Operating Budget in LAX Cost Center 1230019 – Small Business & Job Division Managers Office, Commitment Item 520 – Contractual Services. Funding for subsequent years will be requested as part of the annual budget process; and

WHEREAS, this action, as a continuing administrative activity, is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements pursuant to Article II, Section 2.f of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, LMU will comply with the provisions of the Living Wage Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, LMU will comply with the provisions of the Affirmative Action Program; and

WHEREAS, LMU is assigned Business Tax Registration Certificate 0000002212-0010-1; and

WHEREAS, LMU will comply with the provisions of the Child Support Obligations Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, LMU must have approved insurance documents, in the terms and amounts required, on file with LAWA prior to issuance of a Notice to Proceed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Charter Section 1022, staff determined that the work specified on the Contract can be performed more feasibly or economically by an Independent Contractor than by City employees; and

WHEREAS, LMU must submit the Contractor Responsibility Program Questionnaire and Pledge of Compliance, and must comply with the provisions of said program; and

WHEREAS, LMU must be determined by Public Works, Office of Contract Compliance, to be in compliance with the provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance prior to contract execution; and

WHEREAS, LMU will be required to comply with the provisions of the First Source Hiring Program for all non-trade Los Angeles International Airport jobs; and

WHEREAS, LMU will be required to comply with the provisions of the Bidder Contribution CEC Form 55; and


WHEREAS, LMU will be required to comply with the provisions of the MLO CEC Form 50; and

WHEREAS, actions taken on this item by the Board of Airport Commissioners will become final pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles City Charter Section 373;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Airport Commissioners adopted the Staff Report; determined that this action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements pursuant to Article II, Section 2.f of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; found that the work can be performed more economically or feasibly by an independent contractor than by City employees; approved the three (3)-year Contract with Loyola Marymount University covering support and advisory services in inclusivity-related data analysis, interpretation, and management practices, including revising the Los Angeles World Airports Gap and Equity Study as needed, to reflect corrected/updated datasets, for cost not to exceed \$300,000; and authorized the Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to execute said Contract with Loyola Marymount University after approval by the Los Angeles City Council and approval as to form by the City Attorney.

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I hereby certify that this Resolution No. 27921 is true and correct, as adopted by the Board of Airport Commissioners at its Regular Meeting held on Thursday, March 21, 2024.



Grace Miguel – Secretary  
BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS