



Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney  
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R 25-0191  
APR 17 2025

**REPORT RE:**

**DRAFT ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF WATER AND POWER  
COMMISSIONERS TO AWARD ONE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO A  
COMPETITIVE-SEALED PROPOSAL METHOD TO PERMIT NEGOTIATIONS  
RELATING TO THE DESIGN, ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT AND  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE ELECTRICAL SUBSTATIONS PHYSICAL SECURITY  
UPGRADE PROJECT**

The Honorable City Council  
of the City of Los Angeles  
Room 395, City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Council File No. 25-0406

Honorable Members:

This Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. This draft ordinance will authorize the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to let a contract pursuant to a competitive sealed request for proposal (RFP) method permitting negotiations for the design, engineering, procurement and construction of the Electrical Substations Physical Security Upgrade Project (the Project), with a term not to exceed five years in accordance with criteria outlined in the draft ordinance.

Pursuant to a competitive-sealed proposal method, the engineer, procure and construct criteria adopted by the draft ordinance will permit an award to a specialized proposer experienced in the design, procurement, and construction of concrete masonry unit (CMU) block walls and associated physical security measures. The sealed proposal method, pursuant to Charter Section 371(b), permits negotiations after

proposals have been opened to allow clarifications and changes to the proposal. Pursuant to Charter Section 371(a) and Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.25, the Local Business Preference Program will apply. The term of the contract is necessary because of the complexity of the Project and the lengthy duration to fabricate major components

### Background

This Project is necessary to comply with Federal and LADWP physical security requirements to harden and increase physical security at the electrical substations to protect from potential physical attacks. LADWP is required to identify critical facilities and conduct evaluations of potential threats and vulnerabilities of its facilities from physical attacks that may occur to those facilities. LADWP developed and created mitigation plans with the goal to enhance the physical security at its critical facilities, to maintain grid reliability, and to eliminate potential threats to LADWP's daily operations. During the development of the mitigation plan and identifying and evaluating the physical security risks, LADWP identified two electrical substations that required mitigation of the security risks. The contract for the Project will be for design and engineering of the new perimeter security CMU block walls, installation of anti-climb features on the walls, installation of crash-rated gates at the entrances to the stations, road repairs, and conduit installation.

### Charter Compliance

This draft ordinance establishing the criteria for awarding the contract using a competitive sealed proposal method is transmitted for your approval pursuant to Charter Sections 371(b). Los Angeles Charter Section 371(b) requires this ordinance to be adopted by a vote of at least two-thirds of the City Council.

### CEQA Determination

It is requested that the City Council review and determine the Project is exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2). In accordance with this section, an activity is not subject to CEQA if it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The approval of this draft ordinance will authorize the use of the competitive-sealed bid proposal method to let a contract and will not result in any physical change in the environment; therefore, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA. In addition, construction of upgraded security fences around both electrical substations is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15303 as described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15030 Class 3. Section 15303 applies to the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities and structures.

Council Rule 38 Referral

This draft ordinance has been presented to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners pursuant to Council Rule 38.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Deputy City Attorney Mark Reusch at (213) 367-4619. A member of this Office will be available when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney



By

MICHAEL J. DUNDAS  
Senior Assistant City Attorney

MDJ:MR:ld  
Transmittal