



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

**Date:** April 8, 2015

**To:** Council Member Elizabeth Glidden, Chair, Intergovernmental Relations Committee  
**Referred to:** Ways and Means Committee

**Subject:** FaegreBD Consulting for federal representation services in Washington, D.C.

**Recommendation:** That the proper city officers be authorized to extend Contract #C-35752 with FaegreBD Consulting through July 31, 2015, and increase by \$50,000 for a new, not-to-exceed amount of \$410,000 to allow IGR staff to complete a new RFP and present to the PRC by June 30, 2015.

**Previous Directives:** The city after completing an RFP process entered into a contract with FaegreBD Consulting in March 2012. Amendment #1 to the contract extended it for a second year in March 2013. Amendment #2 extended it for a third year in March 2014. The third and final amendment, Amendment #3, will extend the contract through July 31, 2015.

### Department Information

Prepared by: IGR Staff Approved by: Gene Ranieri, Director, Intergovernmental Relations Department Presenters in Committee: IGR Staff
---

### Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval YES Date Feb. 27, 2015

### Financial Impact

- No financial impact. Request is within the current budget.

**Supporting Information.** Since 2008 the City has maintained two firms to represent it in federal issues. Over the past seven years the relationship with cities and the federal government has changed. In 2009 earmarks of federal funds for specific projects was discontinued. However in the same year, Congress passed and the President signed several pieces of legislation whose goals were to stimulate the economy. The city benefitted with assistance of its Washington, D.C. representative from the legislation. For example, federal funds aided in public infrastructure improvements (Camden Bridge), housing foreclosure prevention efforts and energy conservation.

In the past several years Congress has not adopted a budget and as a result federal agencies have been operating by continuing resolutions (CRs). In addition, the reauthorization of such legislation as transportation, the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) and the highway trust fund has not been enacted and temporary extensions have been adopted. It is not certain if the current Congress will be able to adopt a budget and appropriations that could be signed into law. In response to Congressional inaction, the Administration

through the executive agencies has developed initiatives such as Promise Zones, Energy Savings Champions and community public safety efforts that are available to local governments.

Being aware of the uncertainty of the federal/local relationship, IGR staff along with the Mayor's Office, City Council and departments will review the request for proposals issued in 2012 to determine how it should be modified to benefit the city in its relationship with the federal government.