SUMMARY:
Staff respectfully recommends the Board approve the contract with Farallon Geographics, Inc substantially the form submitted and authorize staff to execute (ATTACHMENT 1).

FISCAL IMPACT:
Up to $60,000

FUNDING SOURCE:
6549  Professional Services

FUNDING BALANCE:
$418,000

DISCUSSION:
The Board of Directors approved MPRPD staff to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Geographic Information Services (GIS) consulting services during the May 2021 meeting. The newly adopted ProcureNow online software application was utilized to reach a broader pool of qualified candidates to meet the GIS needs of the District. Of the ten companies that downloaded the application, six proposals were received and four deemed responsive. A complete list of the vendors and copies of the proposals are available for review upon request.

As GIS technology is ever advancing so are the needs of the District. In place of contracting with a single vendor staff is contracting with multiple qualified vendors to create a pool of experts to meet specific project needs. The pool of consultants will transfer, restructure, provide regular and long-term maintenance, collect, and analyze data, and create applications and deliverables such as maps, reports, educational materials. Each contract amount is expected to be under threshold amount requiring Board approval with the exception of Farallon Geographics, Inc (Farallon) (ATTACHMENT 2).

Since conception in 2007, GIS documents and data have been stored on servers by a third-party consultant. Farallon is tasked to transfer, restructure, and reorganize the GIS data structure to a new MPRPD administrator account using the Azure hosted Infrastructure. This comprehensive and complex transfer and system set-up includes 1. review and assessment GIS resources to understand the needs of MPRPD staff and
create a system designed to evolve with future needs; 2. deploy ArcGIS Online, a powerful platform with the ability to securely publish the District’s geodata for a wide variety of types of users; and 3. develop documentation and training defining system design and outlining data migration mappings, system architecture, and cataloging AGOL-driven applications for easy use by staff and other contractors. The data transfer and launching of the new system is to be completed within a year.

The transfer and system set up provides the staff and GIS stakeholders a transparent structure under a District account that can be remotely managed by staff or contractor, depending on the evolving needs of the District. The system and will be hosted on a remote desktop platform that can be instantly updated and upgraded due to its cutting-edge, cloud-based nature and reduces the need for hardware which produces e-waste. E-waste, according to WHO (World Health Organization) increased 21% from 2014-2019 and is projected to increase more with the demand for electronic devices. As a 21st century organization, preparing for future technological growth with sustainable technology is vital.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Staff respectfully recommends the Board approve to contract with Farallon Geographics, Inc for Transfer and Restructure the MPRPD GIS System in substantially the form submitted and authorize staff to execute the Professional Services Agreement.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Professional Services Agreement
2. Farallon Cost Proposal