

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: FEBRUARY 3, 2015

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL – OUT OF STATE TRAINING

SOURCE: Public Works Department – Engineering Division

COMMENT: EduCode International offers a well-established resource of instructional classes for Building Officials and Building Inspectors. Each year, they provide a one-week training program in Las Vegas, NV, with classes that are certified and approved by the International Code Council, giving those who complete each course continuing education units that apply to their existing inspector certifications. This one-week training program possesses an advantage over programs of similar nature offered within California as it offers both a better selection and more specialized training classes. This year's training program runs from March 9, 2015, through March 13, 2015. Estimated costs for registration, travel and accommodations is \$1,800 total.

Similar training programs are available throughout the year within California. One such program is scheduled for March in Monterey, CA, and is offered by the California Building Officials (CALBO). The estimated costs for registration, travel and accommodations is \$2,300 total. The main difference in price being a price difference of \$100 per night for hotel rooms. Another training program, offered by CALBO, is scheduled for September in San Ramon, CA. The estimated costs for registration, travel and accommodations is \$2,350. Again, the major price difference being the cost of hotel rooms. The CALBO training classes do not offer as many options for class choices, limiting the range of training staff can receive.

The Public Works Department – Engineering Division seeks authorization to send both the Chief Building Inspector and the Building Inspector I for this training opportunity. They will divide the week between them with the Building Inspector I attending courses Monday and Tuesday and the Chief Building Inspector attending courses Wednesday through Friday. This schedule allows the Public Works Department to continue to offer permit inspections throughout the week.

Funding is available in the Public Works Department – Engineering and Building Division FY 2014/2015 training budget.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council approve staff's travel to Las Vegas, NV, and attendance at EduCode International training week.

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