

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
FROM: ANDREW WILT, ASSOCIATE CIVIL ENGINEER
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

SUBJECT: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT APPROVAL –
PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR THE
LAGUNA TREATMENT PLANT FLOOD PROTECTION

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Departments of Water and Transportation and Public Works (TPW) that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with GHD, Inc., of Santa Rosa, California, to provide Professional Environmental Services for the Laguna Treatment Plant Flood Protection project in the amount not to exceed \$228,321.00.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This proposed action will allow the environmental studies and permitting to be completed for the construction of the flood protection project.

BACKGROUND

The City of Santa Rosa Water Department operates the Regional Water Reuse System which consists of the operation and maintenance of the Laguna Treatment Plant (LTP) for treating wastewater, the Compost Facility for processing biosolids, and the reclamation system for distributing recycled water. The LTP produces disinfected tertiary recycled water as defined by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, has an average daily dry weather flow of 15.5 million gallons per day (mgd), and is permitted for 21.34 mgd average daily dry weather flow. The permitted peak day wet weather flow is 67 mgd.

Several significant storm events have occurred within the last three decades resulting in varying levels of operational impacts to the LTP. In December 2005, a significant rainfall event resulted in inundating the LTP with up to three feet of flood water and debris, and

restricting access. The LTP processes were also affected requiring the implementation of emergency procedures.

In April 2008, a feasibility report entitled, “Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Project”, by HDR Engineering, Inc. was completed. The report provided conceptual flood protection alternatives and the recommendation that more comprehensive hydrologic and hydraulic analysis be performed prior to the design phase.

In March 2016, the construction of a temporary flood protection wall around specific key facilities at the LTP was completed to provide immediate protection against flood events up to the recorded 2005 storm flood levels. The temporary wall serves as an interim measure until permanent improvements are installed.

In July 2016, a new feasibility study entitled, “Flood Protection at the Laguna Treatment Plant Feasibility Study”, by GHD, Inc. was completed. The study recommended the installation of a combination flood berm and wall protection system for the LTP. The study included limited hydrologic and hydraulic modeling to determine the design storm conditions and the approximate correlating flood water elevation at the LTP. Concurrent with this effort, a limited desk-top geotechnical study was performed. In addition, because storm water would be impounded by the proposed flood protection system a conceptual design analysis of the storm water system within the proposed flood protection improvements was performed.

The services provided under this proposed PSA will generally include environmental services (including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)) and permitting of the flood protection system serving the LTP, the Geysers and Reclamation pump stations, and Biosolids facility.

Professional services for engineering design, and for floodplain analysis (hydrologic and hydraulic modeling) are under separate PWO’s with Brelje and Race Consulting Civil Engineers, and Schaaf and Wheeler Consulting Civil Engineers, respectively. Additionally, grant funding assistance is also under a separate PWO with Ernst and Young.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

On April 3, 2014, the Board recommended that the City Council authorize the issuance of Series 2014A Wastewater Revenue Bonds to finance several capital improvement projects, one of which was \$1.0 million for the “evaluation study and design of the construction of a flood protection project to reduce flood vulnerability.”

On November 19, 2015, the Board was advised of the plan to design and install a temporary flood wall to address flooding conditions similar to the 2005 storm flood levels (not the 100-year recurrence interval), and that the permanent solution (100-year

recurrence interval plus freeboard and includes the 500-year occurrence interval) is under analysis with 3 to 4 years in the future to complete.

On March 17, 2016, the Board was advised that the temporary flood protection wall around specific key facilities at the LTP was complete and likely be in place for an estimated 5 years.

On April 24, 2017, the Contract Review Subcommittee met with TPW and Subregional staff, reviewed the project background and Project Work Order (PWO) proposal for engineering design services with Brelje and Race Consulting Civil Engineers, and recommended that the Board approve the proposed PWO for engineering design services.

On September 7, 2017, the Board approved a PWO to Brelje and Race Consulting Civil Engineers for professional engineering design services for the flood protection project.

On June 21, 2018, Water Department staff provided a briefing to the Board of Public Utilities describing FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), a FEMA hazard assistance program similar to but different than its Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program. During this presentation staff presented information about the LTP Flood Protection Project.

On August 2, 2018, the Board approved a resolution authorizing Water Department Staff to submit an HMGP grant application for the LTP Flood Protection Project and authorized a commitment to meet the local match share of funding.

On November 15, 2018, the Board approved to the Water Department to apply for PDM grant funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the California Office of Emergency Services for the Laguna Treatment Plant Flood Protection project and commit to meeting the local match fund requirements for the grant should the project be selected.

ANALYSIS

To satisfy the requirements of the CEQA, an addendum to the Incremental Recycled Water Program (IRWP) Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared under this proposed agreement. GHD will prepare both an EIR Addendum to confirm that the Flood Protection Project would not cause new significant impacts or substantially more severe significant impacts when compared to the impacts already identified in the Program EIR. Staff will bring the completed Addendum back to the Board for consideration. It is anticipated that the project will need to purchase mitigation credits for impacts to wetlands, California Tiger Salamanders, and rare plants and costs have been estimated and are included in the project budget.

TPW staff solicited proposals in an open format to environmental engineering firms using Planet Bids, Minority and Disadvantage Business outreach through Procurement Technical Assistance Center and Minority Business Development Agency, and advertising in the Press Democrat. This procedure is consistent with the FEMA guidelines for reimbursement. The City received three proposals by the September 14, 2018, deadline.

A review panel made up of an Associate Civil Engineer, a City Planner, a Biologist, and a Supervising Engineer reviewed and evaluated the proposals. GHD, Inc. was selected as the most qualified consultant for this project.

GHD has successfully completed environmental services for similar projects both for the City of Santa Rosa and others.

GHD's fee estimate was reviewed and was reasonable for the scope of work and was the middle fee of the three received.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this contract has no additional impact on the budget. Funds for this project were appropriated in the fiscal year 2016-17, Capital Improvement Program budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Professional Services Agreement

CONTACT

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