

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: PETER MARTIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR WATER RESOURCES,
SANTA ROSA WATER
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
(PSA) WITH MONTROSE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC
FOR CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
COMPLIANCE TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR THE SANTA ROSA
WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES PLAN

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Contract Review Subcommittee and Santa Rosa Water staff that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, approve a Professional Services Agreement with Montrose Environmental Solutions to provide California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Technical Services for the Santa Rosa Water Supply Alternatives Plan in the amount not to exceed \$448,788.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Water launched the Our Water Future project and undertook development of a Water Supply Alternatives Plan (WSAP) to identify an adaptive approach to diversifying Santa Rosa's water supply portfolio and production capacity over time. The plan, adopted by the City Council in 2023, identified the need to prepare California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental studies for the proposed water supply project options. This proposed action will award a Professional Services Agreement with Montrose Environmental Solutions to provide California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Technical Services for the Santa Rosa Water Supply Alternatives Plan in the amount not to exceed \$448,788, consistent with the workplan in the WSAP.

BACKGROUND

The City of Santa Rosa wishes to diversify and increase its potable urban water supply portfolio to enhance its resiliency to climate change, droughts, or Sonoma Water service interruptions that could occur during catastrophic events. As a result, Santa Rosa Water launched the Our Water Future project and undertook development of the WSAP to

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identify an adaptive approach to diversifying Santa Rosa's water supply portfolio and production capacity over time. Because water supply reliability is essential to our community, this project engaged a wide range of stakeholders throughout the effort, including an interdisciplinary team of Water staff, an external group of leaders from local organizations and agencies, the community at large, and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU). With significant stakeholder input, the project team established the study objectives, assessed 18 water supply options, produced a feasibility report, and proposed four portfolios of the most feasible water supply options. Based on comments from the various stakeholders, the BPU, and the City Council at study sessions and public meetings, the feasibility analysis report and portfolios were refined and ultimately approved by the BPU and City Council in late 2023.

The WSAP provided an adaptive approach to achieving water supply resiliency goal and targets by 2045. Part of the adaptive approach included the preparation of environmental compliance documents for expanded groundwater supply strategies, including new groundwater production wells, converting existing emergency wells into production wells, and local aquifer storage and recovery wells.

ANALYSIS

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised on June 10, 2024 for California Environmental Quality Act compliance technical services. A total of two (2) firms provided proposals that were responsive to the RFP. The Deputy Director Local Operations, Senior Water Resources Planner, and Senior Environmental Specialist within Santa Rosa Water reviewed the proposals and Montrose Environmental, Inc.'s proposal was the highest ranked proposal based on the quality of the project team, water resources experience, and overall responsiveness to Santa Rosa Water's project needs.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this project are appropriated in JL key 55814 as part of the Water Capital Improvements Program. The approval of this PSA has no additional budgetary impact.

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 Guidelines Section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On October 21, 2024, the Contract Review Subcommittee reviewed the proposed PSA

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with Montrose Environmental, Inc. and unanimously recommended that the Board of Public Utilities approve the PSA.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Draft Professional Services Agreement with Montrose Environmental, Inc.

PRESENTER

Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources