

**CITY OF SANTA ROSA
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH THE CATALYST GROUP, INC.
AGREEMENT NUMBER _____**

This "Agreement" is made as of this ____ day of _____, 2026, by and between the City of Santa Rosa, a municipal corporation ("City"), and The Catalyst Group, Inc., a California Corporation ("Consultant").

R E C I T A L S

A. City desires to obtain support for designing and facilitating a collaborative process to develop an implementation framework for improving water quality conditions in the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed.

B. City desires to retain a qualified firm to conduct the services described above in accordance with the Scope of Services as more particularly set forth in Exhibit A to the Agreement.

C. Consultant represents to City that it is a firm composed of highly trained professionals and is fully qualified to conduct the services described above and render advice to City in connection with said services.

D. The parties have negotiated upon the terms pursuant to which Consultant will provide such services and have reduced such terms to writing.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, City and Consultant agree as follows:

1. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Consultant shall provide to City the services described in Exhibit A ("Scope of Services"). Consultant shall provide these services at the time, place, and in the manner specified in Exhibit A. Exhibit A is attached hereto for the purpose of defining the manner and scope of services to be provided by Consultant and is not intended to, and shall not be construed so as to, modify or expand the terms, conditions or provisions contained in this Agreement. In the event of any conflict between this Agreement and any terms or conditions of any document prepared or provided by Consultant and made a part of this Agreement, including without limitation any document relating to the scope of services or payment therefor, the terms of this Agreement shall control and prevail.

2. COMPENSATION

a. City shall pay Consultant for services rendered pursuant to this Agreement at the rates, times and in the manner set forth in Exhibit B. Consultant shall submit monthly statements to City which shall itemize the services performed as of the date of the statement and set forth a progress report,

including work accomplished during the period, percent of each task completed, and planned effort for the next period. Invoices shall identify personnel who have worked on the services provided, the number of hours each worked during the period covered by the invoice, the hourly rate for each person, and the percent of the total project completed, consistent with the rates and amounts shown in Exhibit B.

b. The payments prescribed herein shall constitute all compensation to Consultant for all costs of services, including, but not limited to, direct costs of labor of employees engaged by Consultant, travel expenses, telephone charges, copying and reproduction, computer time, and any and all other costs, expenses and charges of Consultant, its agents and employees. In no event shall City be obligated to pay late fees or interest, whether or not such requirements are contained in Consultant's invoice.

c. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, the total maximum compensation to be paid for the satisfactory accomplishment and completion of all services to be performed hereunder shall in no event exceed the sum of four hundred and forty-one thousand, nine hundred and seventy-nine dollars and no cents (\$441,979.00). The City's Chief Financial Officer is authorized to pay all proper claims from Charge Number 86482

3. DOCUMENTATION; RETENTION OF MATERIALS

a. Consultant shall maintain adequate documentation to substantiate all charges as required under Section 2 of this Agreement.

b. Consultant shall keep and maintain full and complete documentation and accounting records concerning all extra or special services performed by it that are compensable by other than an hourly or flat rate and shall make such documents and records available to authorized representatives of City for inspection at any reasonable time.

c. Consultant shall maintain the records and any other records related to the performance of this Agreement and shall allow City access to such records during the performance of this Agreement and for a period of four (4) years after completion of all services hereunder.

4. INDEMNITY

a. Consultant shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, indemnify, protect, defend and hold harmless City, and its employees, officials and agents ("Indemnified Parties") from all claims, demands, costs or liability (including liability for claims, suits, actions, arbitration proceedings, administrative proceedings, regulatory proceedings, losses, expenses or costs of any kind, interest, defense costs, and expert witness fees), that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of Consultant, its officers, employees, or agents, in said performance of professional services under this Agreement, excepting only liability arising from the sole negligence, active negligence or intentional misconduct of City.

b. The existence or acceptance by City of any of the insurance policies or coverages described in this Agreement shall not affect or limit any of City's rights under this Section 4, nor shall the limits of such insurance limit the liability of Consultant hereunder. This Section 4 shall not apply to any

intellectual property claims, actions, lawsuits or other proceedings subject to the provisions of Section 17(b), below. The provisions of this Section 4 shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

5. INSURANCE

a. Consultant shall maintain in full force and effect all of the insurance coverage described in, and in accordance with, Attachment One, "Insurance Requirements." Maintenance of the insurance coverage set forth in Attachment One is a material element of this Agreement and a material part of the consideration provided by Consultant in exchange for City's agreement to make the payments prescribed hereunder. Failure by Consultant to (i) maintain or renew coverage, (ii) provide City notice of any changes, modifications, or reductions in coverage, or (iii) provide evidence of renewal, may be treated by City as a material breach of this Agreement by Consultant, whereupon City shall be entitled to all rights and remedies at law or in equity, including but not limited to immediate termination of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any failure by Consultant to maintain required insurance coverage shall not excuse or alleviate Consultant from any of its other duties or obligations under this Agreement. In the event Consultant, with approval of City pursuant to Section 6 below, retains or utilizes any subcontractors or subconsultants in the provision of any services to City under this Agreement, Consultant shall assure that any such subcontractor has first obtained, and shall maintain, all of the insurance coverages set forth in the Insurance Requirements in Attachment One.

b. Consultant agrees that any available insurance proceeds broader than or in excess of the coverages set forth in the Insurance Requirements in Attachment One shall be available to the additional insureds identified therein.

c. Consultant agrees that the insurance coverages and limits provided under this Agreement are the greater of: (i) the coverages and limits specified in Attachment One, or (ii) the broader coverages and maximum limits of coverage of any insurance policy or proceeds available to the name insureds.

6. ASSIGNMENT

Consultant shall not assign any rights or duties under this Agreement to a third party without the express prior written consent of City, in City's sole and absolute discretion. Consultant agrees that the City shall have the right to approve any and all subcontractors and subconsultants to be used by Consultant in the performance of this Agreement before Consultant contracts with or otherwise engages any such subcontractors or subconsultants.

7. NOTICES

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, any notice, submittal or communication required or permitted to be served on a party, shall be in writing and may be served by personal delivery to the person or the office of the person identified below. Service may also be made by mail, by placing first-class postage, and addressed as indicated below, and depositing in the United States mail to:

City Representative:

Heather Johnson
Environmental Compliance Officer
4300 Llano Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95407
(707) 543-3472
Hjohnson@srcity.org

Consultant Representative:

Charles Gardiner
Principal
32 Oxford Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903
(415) 419-5133
Charles@catalystgroupca.com

8. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

a. It is understood and agreed that Consultant (including Consultant's employees) is an independent contractor and that no relationship of employer-employee exists between the parties hereto for any purpose whatsoever. Neither Consultant nor Consultant's assigned personnel shall be entitled to any benefits payable to employees of City. City is not required to make any deductions or withholdings from the compensation payable to Consultant under the provisions of this Agreement, and Consultant shall be issued a Form 1099 for its services hereunder. As an independent contractor, Consultant hereby agrees to indemnify and hold City harmless from any and all claims that may be made against City based upon any contention by any of Consultant's employees or by any third party, including but not limited to any state or federal agency, that an employer-employee relationship or a substitute therefor exists for any purpose whatsoever by reason of this Agreement or by reason of the nature and/or performance of any services under this Agreement.

b. It is further understood and agreed by the parties hereto that Consultant, in the performance of Consultant's obligations hereunder, is subject to the control and direction of City as to the designation of tasks to be performed and the results to be accomplished under this Agreement, but not as to the means, methods, or sequence used by Consultant for accomplishing such results. To the extent that Consultant obtains permission to, and does, use City facilities, space, equipment or support services in the performance of this Agreement, this use shall be at the Consultant's sole discretion based on the Consultant's determination that such use will promote Consultant's efficiency and effectiveness. Except as may be specifically provided elsewhere in this Agreement, the City does not require that Consultant use City facilities, equipment or support services or work in City locations in the performance of this Agreement.

c. If, in the performance of this Agreement, any third persons are employed by Consultant, such persons shall be entirely and exclusively under the direction, supervision, and control of Consultant. Except as may be specifically provided elsewhere in this Agreement, all terms of employment, including hours, wages, working conditions, discipline, hiring, and discharging, or any other terms of employment or requirements of law, shall be determined by Consultant. It is further understood and agreed that Consultant shall issue W-2 or 1099 Forms for income and employment tax purposes, for all of Consultant's assigned personnel and subcontractors.

d. The provisions of this Section 8 shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create an exclusive relationship between

City and Consultant. Consultant may represent, perform services for, or be employed by such additional persons or companies as Consultant sees fit.

9. ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Changes to the Scope of Services shall be by written amendment to this Agreement and shall be paid on an hourly basis at the rates set forth in Exhibit B, or paid as otherwise agreed upon by the parties in writing prior to the provision of any such additional services.

10. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

City and Consultant each binds itself, its partners, successors, legal representatives and assigns to the other party to this Agreement and to the partners, successors, legal representatives and assigns of such other party in respect of all promises and agreements contained herein.

11. TERM, SUSPENSION, TERMINATION

a. This Agreement shall become effective on the date that it is made, set forth on the first page of the Agreement, and shall continue in effect until both parties have fully performed their respective obligations under this Agreement, unless sooner terminated as provided herein.

b. City shall have the right at any time to temporarily suspend Consultant's performance hereunder, in whole or in part, by giving a written notice of suspension to Consultant. If City gives such notice of suspension, Consultant shall immediately suspend its activities under this Agreement, as specified in such notice.

c. City shall have the right to terminate this Agreement for convenience at any time by giving a written notice of termination to Consultant. Upon such termination, Consultant shall submit to City an itemized statement of services performed as of the date of termination in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement. These services may include both completed work and work in progress at the time of termination. City shall pay Consultant for any services for which compensation is owed; provided, however, City shall not in any manner be liable for lost profits that might have been made by Consultant had the Agreement not been terminated or had Consultant completed the services required by this Agreement. Consultant shall promptly deliver to City all documents related to the performance of this Agreement in its possession or control. All such documents shall be the property of City without additional compensation to Consultant.

12. TIME OF PERFORMANCE

The services described herein shall be provided during the period, or in accordance with the schedule, set forth in Exhibit A. Consultant shall complete all the required services and tasks and complete and tender all deliverables to the reasonable satisfaction of City, not later than December 31, 2028.

13. STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE

Consultant shall perform all services performed under this Agreement in the manner and according to the standards currently observed by a competent practitioner of Consultant's profession in California. All products of whatsoever nature that Consultant delivers to City shall be prepared in a professional manner and conform to the standards of quality normally observed by a person currently practicing in Consultant's profession, and shall be provided in accordance with any schedule of performance. Consultant shall assign only competent personnel to perform services under this Agreement. Consultant shall notify City in writing of any changes in Consultant's staff assigned to perform the services under this Agreement prior to any such performance. In the event that City, at any time, desires the removal of any person assigned by Consultant to perform services under this Agreement, because City, in its sole discretion, determines that such person is not performing in accordance with the standards required herein, Consultant shall remove such person immediately upon receiving notice from City of the desire of City for the removal of such person.

14. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Consultant covenants that neither it, nor any officer or principal of its firm, has or shall acquire any interest, directly or indirectly, that would conflict in any manner with the interests of City or that would in any way hinder Consultant's performance of services under this Agreement. Consultant further covenants that in the performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed by it as an officer, employee, agent or subcontractor, without the written consent of City. Consultant agrees to avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance of any conflicts of interest with the interests of City at all times during the performance of this Agreement.

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REQUIREMENTS

a. **Generally.** The City's Conflict of Interest Code requires that individuals who qualify as "consultants" under the Political Reform Act, California Government Code sections 87200 *et seq.*, comply with the conflict of interest provisions of the Political Reform Act and the City's Conflict of Interest Code, which generally prohibit individuals from making or participating in the making of decisions that will have a material financial effect on their economic interests. The term "consultant" generally includes individuals who make governmental decisions or who serve in a staff capacity.

b. **Conflict of Interest Statements.** The individual(s) who will provide services or perform work pursuant to this Agreement are "consultants" within the meaning of the Political Reform Act and the City's Conflict of Interest Code:

☐ yes ☒ no (check one)

If "yes" is checked by the City, Consultant shall cause the following to occur within 30 days after execution of this Agreement:

- (1) Identify the individuals who will provide services or perform work under this Agreement as "consultants"; and

- (2) Cause these individuals to file with the City Clerk the assuming office statements of economic interests required by the City's Conflict of Interest Code.

Thereafter, throughout the term of the Agreement, Consultant shall cause these individuals to file with the City Clerk annual statements of economic interests, and "leaving office" statements of economic interests, as required by the City's Conflict of Interest Code.

The above statements of economic interests are public records subject to public disclosure under the California Public Records Act. The City may withhold all or a portion of any payment due under this Agreement until all required statements are filed.

16. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CITY INFORMATION

During performance of this Agreement, Consultant may gain access to and use City information regarding inventions, machinery, products, prices, apparatus, costs, discounts, future plans, business affairs, governmental affairs, processes, trade secrets, technical matters, systems, facilities, customer lists, product design, copyright, data, and other vital information (hereafter collectively referred to as "City Information") that are valuable, special and unique assets of the City. Consultant agrees to protect all City Information and treat it as strictly confidential, and further agrees that Consultant shall not at any time, either directly or indirectly, divulge, disclose or communicate in any manner any City Information to any third party without the prior written consent of City. In addition, Consultant shall comply with all City policies governing the use of the City network and technology systems. A violation by Consultant of this Section 16 shall be a material violation of this Agreement and shall justify legal and/or equitable relief.

17. CONSULTANT INFORMATION

a. City shall have full ownership and control, including ownership of any copyrights, of all information prepared, produced, or provided by Consultant pursuant to this Agreement. In this Agreement, the term "information" shall be construed to mean and include: any and all work product, submittals, reports, plans, specifications, and other deliverables consisting of documents, writings, handwritings, typewriting, printing, photostatting, photographing, computer models, and any other computerized data and every other means of recording any form of information, communications, or representation, including letters, works, pictures, drawings, sounds, or symbols, or any combination thereof. Consultant shall not be responsible for any unauthorized modification or use of such information for other than its intended purpose by City.

b. Consultant shall fully defend, indemnify and hold harmless City, its officers and employees, and each and every one of them, from and against any and all claims, actions, lawsuits or other proceedings alleging that all or any part of the information prepared, produced, or provided by Consultant pursuant to this Agreement infringes upon any third party's trademark, trade name, copyright, patent or other intellectual property rights. City shall make reasonable efforts to notify Consultant not later than ten (10) days after City is served with any such claim, action, lawsuit or other proceeding, provided that City's failure to provide such notice within such time period shall not relieve Consultant of its obligations hereunder, which shall survive any termination or expiration of this Agreement.

c. All proprietary and other information received from Consultant by City, whether received in connection with Consultant's proposal, will be disclosed upon receipt of a request for disclosure, pursuant to the California Public Records Act; provided, however, that, if any information is set apart and clearly marked "trade secret" when it is provided to City, City shall give notice to Consultant of any request for the disclosure of such information. Consultant shall then have five (5) days from the date it receives such notice to enter into an agreement with the City, satisfactory to the City Attorney, providing for the defense of, and complete indemnification and reimbursement for all costs (including plaintiff's attorneys' fees) incurred by City in any legal action to compel the disclosure of such information under the California Public Records Act. Consultant shall have sole responsibility for defense of the actual "trade secret" designation of such information.

d. The parties understand and agree that any failure by Consultant to respond to the notice provided by City and/or to enter into an agreement with City, in accordance with the provisions of subsection c, above, shall constitute a complete waiver by Consultant of any rights regarding the information designated "trade secret" by Consultant, and such information shall be disclosed by City pursuant to applicable procedures required by the Public Records Act.

18. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties. Any and all verbal or written agreements made prior to the date of this Agreement are superseded by this Agreement and shall have no further effect.

b. Modification. No modification or change to the terms of this Agreement will be binding on a party unless in writing and signed by an authorized representative of that party.

c. Compliance with Laws. Consultant shall perform all services described herein in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances, including but not limited to, (i) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq.) ("ADA"), and any regulations and guidelines issued pursuant to the ADA; and (ii) Labor Code sections 1720, et seq., which require prevailing wages (in accordance with DIR determinations at www.dir.ca.gov) be paid to any employee performing work covered by Labor Code sections 1720 et seq. Consultant shall pay to the City when due all business taxes payable by Consultant under the provisions of Chapter 6-04 of the Santa Rosa City Code. The City may deduct any delinquent business taxes, and any penalties and interest added to the delinquent taxes, from its payments to Consultant.

d. Discrimination Prohibited. With respect to the provision of services under this Agreement, Consultant agrees not to discriminate against any person because of the race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status of that person.

e. Governing Law; Venue. This Agreement shall be governed, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Venue of any litigation arising out of or

connected with this Agreement shall lie exclusively in the state trial court in Sonoma County in the State of California, and the parties consent to jurisdiction over their persons and over the subject matter of any such litigation in such court, and consent to service of process issued by such court.

f. Waiver of Rights. Neither City acceptance of, or payment for, any service or performed by Consultant, nor any waiver by either party of any default, breach or condition precedent, shall be construed as a waiver of any provision of this Agreement, nor as a waiver of any other default, breach or condition precedent or any other right hereunder.

g. Incorporation of Attachments and Exhibits. The attachments and exhibits to this Agreement are incorporated and made part of this Agreement, subject to terms and provisions herein contained.

19. AUTHORITY; SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR CORPORATIONS

Consultant hereby represents and warrants to City that it is (a) a duly organized and validly existing Corporation formed and in good standing under the laws of the State of California (b) has the power and authority and the legal right to conduct the business in which it is currently engaged, and (c) has all requisite power and authority and the legal right to consummate the transactions contemplated in this Agreement. Consultant hereby further represents and warrants that this Agreement has been duly authorized, and when executed by the signatory or signatories listed below, shall constitute a valid agreement binding on Consultant in accordance with the terms hereof.

If this Agreement is entered into by a corporation, it shall be signed by two corporate officers, one from each of the following two groups: a) the chairman of the board, president or any vice-president; b) the secretary, any assistant secretary, chief financial officer, or any assistant treasurer. The title of the corporate officer shall be listed under the signature.

20. COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

This Agreement and future documents relating thereto may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which together constitute one Agreement. Counterparts and/or signatures delivered by facsimile, pdf or City-approved electronic means have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature. Both City and Consultant wish to permit this Agreement and future documents relating thereto to be electronically signed in accordance with applicable federal and California law. Either Party to this Agreement may revoke its permission to use electronic signatures at any time for future documents by providing notice pursuant to the Agreement. The Parties agree that electronic signatures, by their respective signatories are intended to authenticate such signatures and to give rise to a valid, enforceable, and fully effective Agreement. The City reserves the right to reject any signature that cannot be positively verified by the City as an authentic electronic signature.

Executed as of the day and year first above stated.

CONSULTANT:

The Catalyst Group, Inc., a California Corporation

CITY OF SANTA ROSA

a Municipal Corporation

TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY (*check one*):

☐ Individual/Sole Proprietor
☐ Partnership
☒ Corporation
☐ Limited Liability Company
☐ Other (please specify: _____)

By: _____

Print
Name: _____

Title: _____

Signatures of Authorized Persons:

By: Charles L. Gardiner

Print Name: Charles Gardiner

Title: CEO

By: Charles L. Gardiner

Print Name: Charles Gardiner

Title: Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney

ATTEST:

BPU Secretary

City of Santa Rosa Business Tax Cert. No.

N/A

Attachments:

Attachment One - Insurance Requirements

Exhibit A - Scope of Services

Exhibit B - Compensation

ATTACHMENT ONE INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS

A. Insurance Policies: Consultant shall, at all times during the terms of this Agreement, maintain and keep in full force and effect, the following policies of insurance with minimum coverage as indicated below and issued by insurers with AM Best ratings of no less than A-:VI or otherwise acceptable to the City.

Insurance	Minimum Coverage Limits	Additional Coverage Requirements
1. Commercial general liability	\$ 1 million per occurrence \$ 2 million aggregate	Coverage must be at least as broad as ISO CG 00 01 and must include completed operations coverage. If insurance applies separately to a project/location, aggregate may be equal to per occurrence amount. Coverage may be met by a combination of primary and umbrella or excess insurance but umbrella and excess shall provide coverage at least as broad as specified for underlying coverage. Coverage shall not exclude subsidence.
2. Business auto coverage	\$ 1 million	ISO Form Number CA 00 01 covering any auto (Code 1), or if Consultant has no owned autos, hired, (Code 8) and non-owned autos (Code 9), with limit no less than \$ 1 million per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
3. Professional liability (E&O)	\$ 1 million per claim \$ 1 million aggregate	Consultant shall provide on a policy form appropriate to profession. If on a claims made basis, Insurance must show coverage date prior to start of work and it must be maintained for three years after completion of work.
4. Workers' compensation and employer's liability	\$ 1 million	As required by the State of California, with Statutory Limits and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of no less than \$ 1 million per accident for bodily injury or disease. The Workers' Compensation policy shall be endorsed with a waiver of subrogation in favor of the City for all work performed by the Consultant, its employees, agents and subcontractors.

B. Endorsements:

1. All policies shall provide or be endorsed to provide that coverage shall not be canceled, except after prior written notice has been provided to the City in accordance with the policy provisions.

2. Liability, umbrella and excess policies shall provide or be endorsed to provide the following:
 - a. For any claims related to this project, Consultant's insurance coverage shall be primary and any insurance or self-insurance maintained by City shall be excess of the Consultant's insurance and shall not contribute with it; and,
 - b. **The City of Santa Rosa, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds on the CGL policy.** General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to Consultant's insurance at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or if not available, through the addition of both CG 20 10 and CG 20 37 if a later edition is used.

C. Verification of Coverage and Certificates of Insurance: Consultant shall furnish City with original certificates and endorsements effecting coverage required above. Certificates and endorsements shall make reference to policy numbers. All certificates and endorsements are to be received and approved by the City before work commences and must be in effect for the duration of the Agreement. The City reserves the right to require complete copies of all required policies and endorsements.

D. Other Insurance Provisions:

1. No policy required by this Agreement shall prohibit Consultant from waiving any right of recovery prior to loss. Consultant hereby waives such right with regard to the indemnitees.
2. All insurance coverage amounts provided by Consultant and available or applicable to this Agreement are intended to apply to the full extent of the policies. Nothing contained in this Agreement limits the application of such insurance coverage. Defense costs must be paid in addition to coverage amounts.
3. Policies containing any self-insured retention (SIR) provision shall provide or be endorsed to provide that the SIR may be satisfied by either Consultant or City. Self-insured retentions above \$10,000 must be approved by City. At City's option, Consultant may be required to provide financial guarantees.
4. Sole Proprietors must provide a representation of their Workers' Compensation Insurance exempt status.
5. City reserves the right to modify these insurance requirements while this Agreement is in effect, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.

Scope of Work

Laguna de Santa Rosa Task Force and Implementation Framework Support

May 13, 2026

The Catalyst team will support the City of Santa Rosa, the Core Team, and the Task Force in designing and facilitating a collaborative process to develop an implementation framework for improving water quality conditions in the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed. The work will include process design, stakeholder assessment and engagement, facilitation of Core Team and Task Force meetings, science and strategic support, preparation of project reports, and may include assistance with a State of the Laguna conference.

Task 1 – Core Team Coordination and Project Management

Catalyst will support project coordination and participate as a member of the Core Team throughout the duration of the project. The Core Team will guide the Task Force process, coordinate technical information and presentations, and ensure alignment between the Task Force process and any requirements of the Regional Water Board.

Catalyst will prepare for and participate in an in-person kickoff meeting and approximately twenty-four (24) Core Team meetings. Following an in-person kickoff meeting, Core Team meetings are anticipated to occur virtually unless otherwise requested. Catalyst will coordinate with Core Team members to prepare meeting agenda packets, identify discussion topics and presentation needs, and ensure that each Task Force meeting advances the project goals.

Core Team participants are anticipated to include representatives from the City of Santa Rosa, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Town of Windsor, Sonoma County, Sonoma Water, Laguna Foundation, and potential Tribal Governments and other agencies or organizations.

Task 1 Activities

- Prepare for and participate in project kickoff meeting.
- Prepare for and participate in approximately 24 Core Team meetings.
- Coordinate with Core Team members regarding agendas, meeting objectives, and presentations.
- Support development and refinement of the Task Force process and schedule.
- Coordinate project communications and monthly project check-ins.
- Prepare meeting notes and action items from Core Team meetings.
- Provide overall project management and coordination support.

Deliverables

- Meeting agendas and coordination materials
- Core Team meeting notes and action items
- Ongoing project coordination and management support
- Monthly invoices and progress reports

Task 2 – Task Force Assessment and Formation

Catalyst will conduct a Stakeholder Assessment and support formation of the Task Force. The assessment will identify key interests, understand perspectives and concerns related to water quality recovery in the

Laguna watershed, and help ensure that the Task Force includes balanced and meaningful participation from diverse interests.

Catalyst will conduct up to 30 confidential stakeholder interviews including all member entities of the Core Team. We will interview representatives from agencies, Tribal governments, environmental organizations, agricultural interests, scientific organizations, land management entities, community organizations, and other interested parties identified by the Core Team. Some interviews may occur in groups of two or more individuals from the same interest group or organization.

Interest categories anticipated for outreach include:

- Tribal governments.
- Cities and local agencies.
- County and regional organizations.
- State and federal resource agencies.
- Environmental and watershed organizations.
- Fisheries and aquatic habitat interests.
- Land management and conservation organizations.
- Agricultural and ranching interests.
- Business and development interests.
- Transportation agencies.
- Academic and research organizations.
- Elected officials and community representatives.

Based on the assessment, Catalyst will work with the Core Team to identify approximately 17–25 Task Force participants representing the range of interests involved in or affected by future watershed management and implementation efforts.

Catalyst will also prepare a draft Task Force charter describing the purpose of the Task Force, participant roles, decision-making approach, meeting protocols, and expected outcomes for review and refinement by the Core Team and Task Force.

Task 2 Activities

- Conduct stakeholder assessment interviews and outreach.
- Identify key interests, concerns, and participation needs.
- Prepare Stakeholder Assessment Memorandum.
- Assist Core Team in identifying Task Force participants, observers, and contributors.
- Coordinate Task Force invitations and outreach to interested parties not included on the Task Force.
- Prepare draft Task Force charter.

Deliverables

- Stakeholder Assessment Memorandum
- Recommended Task Force participant list
- Draft Task Force Charter

Task 3 – Task Force Planning and Facilitation

Catalyst will support planning, facilitation, and documentation for approximately 13 Task Force meetings conducted over the course of the project. Meetings are anticipated to focus on development of a shared understanding of watershed conditions, existing programs and resources, implementation opportunities, and development of the implementation framework.

Catalyst will coordinate closely with the Core Team to prepare agendas, organize presentations and supporting materials, and ensure meetings are focused, productive, and aligned with project objectives. Catalyst will facilitate discussions, support collaborative problem solving, and help participants identify areas of shared understanding and coordinated action.

As part of the team, SFEI will support science and technical integration throughout the process by coordinating with subject matter experts from the Regional Water Board, Sonoma Water, the Laguna Foundation, and other organizations regarding presentations, technical information, and implementation considerations.

In addition, Catalyst will support one field trip involving Core Team and Task Force participants to improve understanding of Laguna watershed conditions, restoration opportunities, and management challenges.

Task 3 Activities

- Plan and facilitate approximately 13 Task Force meetings.
- Prepare agenda packets and meeting materials.
- Coordinate meeting venue logistics and participation.
- Prepare meeting summaries and action items.
- Participate in one Task Force/Core Team field trip.
- Coordinate technical presentations and science support.
- Support development of the Gap Analysis scope and coordination with the Gap Analysis team.
- Support development and qualitative evaluation of implementation opportunities and strategies.

Deliverables

- Meeting agendas and agenda packets
- Meeting summaries and action items
- Science and technical coordination support
- Field trip coordination and facilitation support

Task 4 – Project Reports and Implementation Framework

Catalyst will prepare a series of reports and summary documents to support discussions among the Core Team and Task Force and inform agencies, decision-makers, and interested parties regarding the development of the implementation framework.

The reports will progressively document watershed conditions, existing programs and resources, implementation opportunities, and recommendations for coordinated action to improve water quality conditions in the Laguna watershed.

Task 4 Activities and Deliverables

The Catalyst team will develop draft and final reports to document and communicate Core Team and Task Force consensus and recommendations.

- **Situation Assessment Memorandum.** Summary of stakeholder assessment findings, key issues, and recommendations regarding Task Force participation and process considerations.
- **Summary Problem Statement.** Summary and synthesis of current understanding regarding watershed conditions, water quality impairments, pollutant sources, restoration opportunities, and objectives for the implementation framework.
- **Program Inventory.** Summary of existing programs, initiatives, regulations, funding sources, restoration efforts, and management activities relevant to water quality conditions in the Laguna watershed.
- **Mid-Project Report.** Summary of Task Force and Core Team activities, discussions, and progress through approximately the midpoint of the process.
- **Program Opportunities Memorandum.** Summary of potential opportunities for coordination, implementation, restoration, and watershed management actions identified through the Task Force process.
- **Draft Framework and Implementation Strategy.** Draft implementation framework describing potential actions, implementation strategies, responsible entities, coordination needs, schedules, and monitoring considerations for improving water quality conditions in the Laguna watershed.
- **Final Implementation Framework.** Final recommendations report incorporating Core Team and Task Force consensus and prepared for consideration by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- **Final Project Report.** Comprehensive summary report documenting the Task Force and Core Team process, meeting outcomes, presentations, supporting materials, and summary of Task Force deliberations and recommendations.

Task 5 – State of the Laguna Conference (Optional / TBD)

The Catalyst team will support planning and coordination of a State of the Laguna conference intended to share the results of the Task Force process and implementation framework with agencies, interested parties, and the broader community.

Specific conference scope and level of support will be determined in coordination with the City and Core Team.

Potential Activities

- Assist with conference planning and agenda development.
- Coordinate speakers and presentation topics.
- Support meeting facilitation and logistics.
- Prepare presentation materials and summaries.
- Present Implementation Framework process and results.

Exhibit B

Laguna de Santa Rosa Water Quality Implementation Framework	Catalyst						SFEI								Labor Total	
	Charles Gardiner	Peter Bluhon	Linadria Porter	Aaron Pope			Whipple/Dusterhoff									
	Project Director	Senior Facilitator	Project Manager	Reports	Project Support	Graphics	Program Director	Senior Scientist	Scientist II	Scientist I	Associate Scientist	Sr. Tech Analyst	Admin			
Rates	\$275	\$270	\$190	\$190	\$105	\$145	\$297	\$293	\$203	\$177	\$164	\$151	\$207		Hours	(\$)
															Task Totals	
Task 1 - Core Team and Project Management (24)	150	174	126	0	4	0	88	3	0	0	0	0	8	553	\$	141,243
Task 2 - Task Force Assessment and Formation	22	47	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	\$	28,050
Task 3 - Task Force Planning and Facilitation (13)	91	234	182	0	156	0	80	3	0	0	0	30	0	711	\$	168,311
Task 4 - Project Reports	52	52	34	64	52	48	60	20	6	8	8	36	0	458	\$	96,652
Task 5 - State of the Laguna Conference (TBD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$	-
Total Labor Cost															\$	434,256
Other Direct Costs															\$	7,723
Travel															\$	3,181
Markup on subconsultants (5%)															\$	4,542
Project Total	315	507	391	64	212	48	228	26	6	8	8	66	8	1,840	\$	441,979
Assumptions: City arranges meeting facilities.																

SFEI Included
\$ 28,653
\$ 29,146
\$ 33,042
\$ 90,841
\$ 1,205
\$ 92,046

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Final Audit Report

2026-06-23

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