



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** PW/Flood Control  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** June 24, 2025  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
**FROM:** Department Directors Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010  
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director, Flood Control, (805) 568-3436  
**SUBJECT:** Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project, First Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Manager**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign plans and specifications for the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project (Project No. 23STM1-S05C);
- b) Award, approve, and authorize the Chair to execute the construction contract for the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project in the base contract amount of \$359,130 to the lowest responsible bidder CGS Engineering Corporation (a local vendor), subject to the provisions of documents and certifications, as set forth in the plans and specifications applicable to the project and as required by law;
- c) Authorize the Public Works Director or designee to approve changes or additions to the work being performed under the Construction Contract for a contingency amount not to exceed \$30,456.50 for a total not to exceed authorization of \$389,586.50 to complete the work within the scope of the Agreement for the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project;
- d) Determine that the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project to be carried out is for the benefit of a single zone; and
- e) Find that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA) Section 15301, the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project is an existing facility exempt from the provisions of CEQA and direct the Clerk of the Board to file the CEQA Notice of Exemption for the project.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda in order to approve the plans (Attachment A), specifications (Attachment B), award the construction contract (Attachment C), and post the CEQA Notice of Exemption (Attachment D) for the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project.

On May 7, 2025, the Flood Control District (District) received four (4) bids for the Project. CGS Engineering Corporation submitted the lowest responsive bid for the base contract for \$359,130. The engineer's construction cost estimate for the base contract was \$200,000.

In recent months, specific imported material and goods cost has fluctuated in the wake of posturing that has affected most marketable goods not attainable in the USA. The biggest work item associated with this contract is the steel debris rack that is to be replaced. The high costs of this one item caused an increase in bids received to be significantly over the original engineer's construction cost estimate.

This project was bid in accordance with the Public Contract Code, which requires the contract to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The District re-evaluated the engineer's estimate, analyzed the bids and determined the low bid is responsive and responsible. The District recommends awarding this contract to CGS Engineering Corporation.

**Background:**

On January 4, 2023, a storm (23STM1) severely impacted Santa Barbara County (County) and a Federal Disaster (DR-4769-CA) was declared with sediment and debris laden conditions in rivers, creeks, and basins across the County.

During the 2023 winter storms, the debris rack at the Lower Mission Creek bypass structure underneath US-101 near De La Vina Street and West Gutierrez Street in Santa Barbara was damaged. The bypass structure experienced high flows and debris accumulated on the debris rack, permanently damaging it. As part of the 2023 winter response, the District removed the debris from the rack and bypass. The debris rack was analyzed and ultimately part of the rack was removed due to damage. The Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project will construct a new and improved debris rack at this location.

State CEQA guidelines Section 15301 provides a categorical exemption for operations, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public structures and facilities. The debris rack is part of an existing structure that was damaged in February 2023 and remains in an interim state of repair. This project needs to be completed to protect public health and safety and to lessen the future threat of additional damage as the winter rainy season approaches. The activity would not expand or change the use of the existing structure. The attached CEQA Notice of Exemption was prepared for this project and will be posted after Board actions are approved.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Partially

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2025-26 Contract Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total Contract Cost:</u></b>
South Coast FZ	\$ 389,586.50		\$ 389,586.50
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 389,586.50	\$ -	\$ 389,586.50

**Narrative:**

The FY 2025-26 estimated cost for the Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project (Project No. 23STM1-S05C) is \$450,000, which includes the recommended construction contract for \$389,586.50, reflecting a base construction contract of \$359,130.00 and contingency of \$30,456.50. The additional project costs are for design, construction management, and staff labor. The project is partially funded, with \$150,000 already budgeted in the FY 2025-26 Recommended Budget.

To fully fund the project in FY 2025-26, staff propose reallocating \$300,000 from the Montecito Master Plan (Project SC2301, LIA 7702) to the Lower Mission Creek Debris Rack Repair Project (Project 23STM1, LIA 7510). Both projects are budgeted within the South Coast Flood Zone, Fund 2610, and Program 3005. The reallocation will occur at the start of the fiscal year.

The costs associated with this construction contract are expected to commence in FY 2025-26, following the contract award and the issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

All project costs will be paid through the South Coast Flood Zone and submitted to state and federal agencies for reimbursement. No General Fund monies will be utilized for work associated with these actions.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of Board to post the attached CEQA Notice of Exception for this project and to email copies of the signed plan title sheet, signature page of the special provisions, signature page of the Agreement with CGS Engineering Corporation, and minute order.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A - Plans
- Attachment B - Special Provisions
- Attachment C - Construction Agreement with CGS Engineering Corporation
- Attachment D - Notice of Exemption

**Authored by:**

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