



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: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: February 19, 2008
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Scott McGolpin, Director x 3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director x 3605

SUBJECT: Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project Biological Support Services

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve contract in the amount of \$154,000.00 with the biological consulting firm of EcoSystems Restoration Associates (ERA) (a Division of P&D Consultants) to provide biological support services (regulatory permitting and restoration planning) for the proposed Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project; and
2. Authorize the Chair to execute the biological support services contract with ERA.

Summary Text:

Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD) has identified a potential reconfiguration of the permitted waste footprint at the Tajiguas Landfill. The reconfiguration allows for better sediment management, reduces grading and grading-related impacts, provides for a significant cost savings as compared to the approved configuration, and would not change the landfill's permitted disposal capacity. The reconfiguration would impact two man-made in-channel sedimentation basins and a portion of upper Pila Creek (an ephemeral drainage). The in-channel sedimentation basins support a breeding population of the federally threatened California red legged frog and other riparian resources are present within Pila Creek. Therefore, reconfiguration of the waste footprint will require compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and approvals from various regulatory agencies including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of

Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board who have jurisdiction over the basins and Pila Creek.

RRWMD's goal is that the reconfiguration project results in a net environmental benefit. Therefore, concurrent with the reconfiguration, RRWMD is proposing to conduct restoration activities within the Arroyo Quemado watershed on the County-owned Baron Ranch to compensate for biological impacts incurred at the Tajiguas Landfill. RRWMD is proposing to retain ERA to assist with the acquisition of permits for the reconfiguration and to prepare a comprehensive restoration plan for portions of the Arroyo Quemado watershed.

The proposed award of the contract for permitting and restoration support services to ERA follows their appointment, through a Master Services Agreement, to conduct a biological impact analysis for the proposed reconfiguration which will be included in the CEQA analysis. A separate request for proposals is being prepared to solicit consultants to prepare the CEQA document for the reconfiguration. Previously, ERA was retained by the engineering firm which designed the reconfiguration to provide an inventory and biological constraints analysis for the project to assist in improving the design and to catalogue resources at Baron Ranch. Therefore, ERA's intimate knowledge of the Tajiguas Landfill and Baron Ranch and their substantial experience in permit acquisition and restoration planning and implementation make them extremely qualified for appointment to assist with permitting and restoration planning for the reconfiguration project.

Background:

The Tajiguas Landfill has been in operation since 1967 for disposal of municipal solid waste. The original landfill predates adoption of the California Environmental Quality Act (1970) and the Coastal Act, which designated Coastal Zones in California in 1976. Solid waste currently delivered to the Tajiguas Landfill is generated by the City of Santa Barbara, City of Goleta, the unincorporated areas of southern Santa Barbara County, and the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valleys.

On August 13, 2002, the Board of Supervisors certified an EIR (01-EIR-05) for, and approved, the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project (Front Canyon Expansion). This project consists of the horizontal and vertical expansion of the landfill outside of the Coastal Zone, providing 8.2 million cubic yards of additional capacity. RRWMD is in the process of implementing the expansion project and the Board has approved several contracts for construction of protective low permeability liners within the approved waste disposal areas. The approved expansion project involves eight phases. The first of eight phases was completed in 2004 and the final phase is projected to be completed in fiscal year 2013/2014. RRWMD is proposing to reconfigure the Phase II and III refuse fill limits while eliminating the Phase IV area to the north and maintaining the permitted waste footprint at 118-acres.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for this contract was not included in the FY 2007/08 Budget of the Resource Recovery & Waste Mgt. Enterprise Fund. There are funds available, however, in the Professional Services Line Item Account 7460 in Program 1750 from deferred costs associated with the Tajiguas Entrance at Hwy. 101 project. The entrance project was budgeted in the amount of \$200,000 and no costs are anticipated for the current fiscal year. The costs projected for the next year will be included in the FY 2008/09 Budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Enterprise Fund	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 154,000.00
Total	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 154,000.00

Narrative:

Engineering and environmental compliance projects are included in the enterprise fund’s annual budget and are supported by facility tipping fees. The funding for this project is not anticipated to require the use of any of the enterprise fund reserves.

Special Instructions:

Please send certified stamped copies of the minute order to Mark Schleich, Joddi Leipner, and Colleen Hankins in the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department.

Attachments:

1. Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor

Authored by:

Joddi Leipner, Public Works x3614

cc: Project File