



**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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Public Works / LCSD
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: December 09, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Laguna County Sanitation District
FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., PW Director
Contact: Martin Wilder, P.E., LCSD Manager
SUBJECT: **Statement of Final Quantities for Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant Phase 1 Upgrade, Fourth and Fifth Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: None

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Statement of Final Quantities for the construction of the Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant Phase 1 Upgrade Project, Project No. PLEXP1; Board Contract Number BC20122, on file in the Public Works Department, for work performed and materials supplied by W.M. Lyles Company, Incorporated, (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$55,712,110.25, and
- b) Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)[5], finding that the action consists of an administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve the statement of final quantities for the Wastewater Reclamation Plant Phase 1 Upgrade Project, Project No. PLEXP1, Board Contract Number BC20122, for the Laguna County Sanitation District. The Board of Directors awarded the construction of the project to W.M. Lyles Company, Incorporated on August 18, 2020, for a construction contract amount of \$53,063,500.00 and a contingency amount of up to \$2,653,175.00.

The project consisted of significant upgrades to the wastewater reclamation facility with the installation of a new plant influent headworks, grit chamber, secondary treatment activated sludge aeration basins, secondary clarifiers, a new laboratory and operations building, and other ancillary facilities and work. The project started construction on October 5, 2020. The Director of Public Works accepted this project as complete on October 3, 2025. The final contract amount including change order work was \$55,712,110.25. The project was completed within budget and on time.

Discussion:

The Laguna County Sanitation District recently completed a project with W.M. Lyles Company, Incorporated to upgrade its wastewater reclamation facility. The upgraded facility installed a new plant headworks and secondary biological treatment train, activated sludge aeration basins, to replace a biological trickling filter. The project started construction on October 5, 2020 and the Director of Public Works accepted this project as complete on October 3, 2025. The project included nineteen (19) contract change orders at \$2,648,610.25 which covered additional work items. The change orders were within the approved contingency amount which was \$2,653,175.00. The total project cost, once completed, was \$55,712,110.25. Overall, the project was completed on time and within budget per the Attachment A Statement of Final Quantities.

Background:

The Laguna County Sanitation District operates a wastewater reclamation facility serving the Orcutt community and southern unincorporated Santa Maria area. A master plan study, presented to the Board of Directors in 2011, discussed the Phase 1 plant upgrade project. The plan addressed the reclamation plant facilities constructed in 1959 and subsequent upgrades constructed in 1974, 1986, and 2001, and recommended the replacement of the older plant components not associated with the 2001 regulatory upgrade. These facilities were beyond their useful lives, exhibited structural deficiencies, would not address changes in regulatory standards, and were not compatible with future needs. The proposed Phase 1 improvements met the objective of planning for current and future service needs with a treatment capacity of 3.7 million gallons per day (mgd), while a future Phase 2 capacity upgrade is intended to serve future customers with an expanded capacity of up to 5.0 mgd.

Subsequent studies and designs were completed by Carollo Engineers starting from 2014, with preparation of plans and specifications completed in 2019. A Report of Waste Discharge was submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board in June 2019. New plant treatment and recycling permits have been issued as of February 13, 2023.

The bidding process for the Phase 1 plant upgrade included the solicitation of contractors through a request for qualifications (RFQ) process in order to prequalify prospective bidders. A short list of eleven contractors was established in March 2019. Bids were let in December 2019 and two bids were received on May 28, 2020. W.M. Lyles Company submitted the lowest responsible and responsive bid in the amount of \$53,063,500, which was 6.73% higher than the engineer's estimate. The other bid was \$69,214,000. Staff determined W.M. Lyles Company to be responsive based on a review of the bidding materials and recommended contract award to this vendor. District staff also recommended a construction contingency of 5% or \$2,653,175. It is noted that the District is not subject to the limitations set forth in Public Contract Code Section 20142. The Board of Directors awarded the construction of the project to W.M. Lyles Company, Incorporated on August 18, 2020, for a construction contract amount of \$53,063,500.00 and a contingency amount of up to \$2,653,175.00. The project started construction on October 5, 2020 and the Director of Public

Works accepted this project as complete on October 3, 2025. Motor replacements for the ultra-violet break tank pumps are scheduled to occur in December 2025 and considered in the contract specifications under the contractor's warranty and guarantee. Overall, the project was completed on time and within budget per the Attachment A Statement of Final Quantities.

The project was approved and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities Master Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) was adopted on July 3, 2018. Because the work was located within dispersal habitat of the federally endangered/state threatened California tiger salamander and the federally threatened California red-legged frog, mitigation for this (and all anticipated District capital improvements) in the form of a conservation easement on District property was required. United States Fish and Wildlife Service Incidental Take Permit TE16913C was issued on August 22, 2017 and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife issued a Consistency Determination on October 3, 2018. A conservation easement was established on May 23, 2019 completing the mitigation process allowing all planned projects in the HCP to move forward. The environmental documents can be found at <https://www.countyofsb.org/1165/Environmental-Documents>.

Approval of the statement of final quantities is an administrative activity to formally close and acknowledge completion of the project and is therefore not a project subject to CEQA.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	Total
LCSD Operations, Reserves, and Debt Service	\$55,712,110.25
Total	\$55,712,110.25

The construction of the Phase 1 plant upgrade was a multi-year project with a construction start in October 2020 and construction completion in October 2025. The project was included in the Public Works Department section of the current Five-Year CIP. Funding comes from District capital reserves and debt service proceeds in the amount of \$28,000,000. The costs are a one-time expense budgeted in Department 054, Fund 2870, Line Item 8200. Other project costs are related to professional services such as engineering services during construction, construction management services, environmental monitoring services, and special testing and inspection services.

Special Instructions:

It is requested that the Clerk of the Board:

- A. Forward a certified minute order to Kevin Thompson and Cori Munguia at the Laguna County Sanitation District administrative office in the North County Public Works Department building at 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Statement of Final Quantities for PLEXP1

Contact Information:

Statement of Final Quantities for Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant Phase 1 Upgrade,
Fourth and Fifth Supervisorial Districts
Agenda Date: December 09, 2025
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Authored by: Kevin Thompson, P.E.,
Civil Engineer Specialist
kethomp@countyofsb.org

Copy:

Angela Arredondo, Accountant Supervising
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