



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: 10/4/2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Laguna County Sanitation District
FROM: Department Director Scott D. McGolpin, P.E. Director, (805) 568-3010
Contact Info: Leslie Wells, Deputy Director, (805) 882-3605

SUBJECT: Authorization to Advertise and Receive Bids for Phases of Recycled Water Distribution Project to Rancho Maria Golf Course - Fourth Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and receive bids for phases of the Recycled Water Distribution Project to Rancho Maria Golf Course (RWDIS2); and
- a) Determine that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15162, no substantial changes are proposed or have occurred, and no new information of substantial importance has come to light regarding environmental effects of the project or of the sufficiency or feasibility of mitigation measures and, therefore the authority to advertise and receive bids for phases of the Recycled Water Distribution Project to Rancho Maria Golf Course is within the scope of the project analyzed in the *Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Recycled Water Distribution Main (Phase 2)*, 09NGD-00000-00021, adopted by the Board of Directors on April 10, 2010 and the *Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities Master Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration*, 17NGD-00000-00015, adopted by the Board of Directors on July 3, 2018, and no new environmental document is required.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to advertise and receive bids for construction of various segments of the recycled water pipeline intended to distribute recycled water to the Rancho Maria Golf Course. Because the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is implementing a widening improvement project on State Route 1 in 2023, it is the intent to complete this segment of the pipeline prior to those surface

improvements in order to prevent disruption. The remainder is to be constructed in Black Road at a later date, which will utilize a segment included in the Black Road bridge project in 2014.

Background:

The Laguna County Sanitation District provides wastewater services to the Orcutt and southern Santa Maria area. Wastewater is treated to disinfected tertiary levels including advanced treatment to reduce mineral content. The recycled water is used for beneficial uses such as irrigation as the means of discharge. Plant treatment capacity is 3.7 million gallons per day (MGD), however, discharge capacity is presently only 2.4 MGD. In order to accommodate planned development and more closely match treatment and discharge capacities, the District must plan for new use sites. A *Market Assessment for Recycled Water* study was prepared in 2000 that included several high use sites including the Rancho Maria Golf Course. The golf course has an annual average daily water demand of approximately 0.4 MGD.

Significant technical study has been completed for the Rancho Maria Golf Course project including an *Agronomic Study* (2009), a *Recycled Water System Analysis* (2009), a *Soil and Plant Survey* (2010), a *Soil Sampling and Analysis Plan* (2010), an *Adaptive Management Plan* (2010), and a *Groundwater/Recycled Water Comparison Study* (2021). Preliminary plans and specifications were developed in 2010. District staff recently became aware that Caltrans has a major widening and road improvement project planned for a long segment of State Route 1 including the area in front of the golf course. The road widening project is planned for 2024. Because Caltrans has a policy to not disturb new pavement for several years without significant re-work, it is more cost efficient to install that section of pipeline prior to the widening project.

The authorization to advertise is an administrative action that is a part of the implementation of the approved project. Environmental review for the project was completed through a *Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Recycled Water Distribution Main (Phase 2)*, 09NGD-00000-00021, adopted by the Board on April 10, 2010. To address environmental findings and mitigation measures, the project was included in the *Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities Master Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration*, 17NGD-00000-00015, adopted by the Board on July 3, 2018. These documents may be found at: <https://www.countyofsb.org/1355/Laguna-County-Sanitation-District>. This effort included the recordation of a conservation easement to provide compensatory mitigation for work within designated critical habitat areas known to contain breeding, dispersal and upland habitat of the federally endangered/state threatened California tiger salamander and the federally threatened California red-legged frog. The conservation easement was approved by the Board on August 14, 2018 and recorded by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife on May 23, 2019. This allowed for the issuance of a federal incidental take permit (ITP) under Section 10(a) (1) (B) of the federal Endangered Species Act as well as a consistency determination (CD) under the California Endangered Species Act pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the California Fish and Game Code. A separate categorical exclusion was prepared by the USFWS in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Upon completion of these steps, the District was able to pursue construction activities. The pipeline will be constructed/installed in compliance with the mitigation measures in the environmental documents and the avoidance and minimization measures in the HCP.

Therefore, staff recommends the Board of Directors take the recommended actions in order to reduce construction costs within Caltrans road rights of way and allow for construction of the remaining sections when appropriate.

Performance Measure:

Construction of the recycled water distribution pipeline to the Rancho Maria Golf Course will provide approximately 0.4 MGD in discharge capacity.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

This project is included in the Public Works Department section of the current Five-Year CIP. Funding for the project is included in Laguna County Sanitation District capital replacement reserves in Department 054, Fund 2870, Account 8200.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to forward one (1) copy of the certified minute order to:
Martin Wilder -PW- Laguna County Sanitation District, 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria.

Attachments:

None

Authored by:

Martin Wilder, P.E., Utilities Manager, (805) 803-8755

Copy:

Project File