



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
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: May 5, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., Public Works Director
Contact: Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Deputy Director
SUBJECT: Amendment to Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Geosyntec Consultants; Third Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to Board Contract SCON-001743 (BC24115) for Services of Independent Contractor with Geosyntec Consultants in the amount of \$466,400 for additional construction management and construction quality assurance services associated with the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project, and extend the term of the agreement for six months to December 31, 2026;
- b) Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to approve change orders with Geosyntec Consultants for an additional contingency amount of up to \$46,640, for a total amount not-to-exceed authorization of \$2,093,304;
- c) Determine that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15162, no substantial changes are proposed, no substantial changes of circumstances have occurred, and no new information of substantial importance regarding environmental effects of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project, Fiscal Year 2024-25 and 2025-26, or of the sufficiency or feasibility of mitigation measures have occurred, and therefore, the recommended actions including approval of Amendment No. 1 to the contract for construction

management and construction quality assurance services, and authorization to establish a financial security and budget adjustment is within the scope of the project covered by the Tajiguas Landfill Capacity Increase Project Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (23EIR-00001, SCH No. 2023030563) certified by the Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2024 and, no new environmental document shall be prepared for this project.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve Amendment No. 1 to Board Contract SCON-001743 (BC24115) with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. for continued Construction Management and Construction Quality Assurance services at the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project (Project). Amendment No. 1 increases the total contract amount of \$1,580,264 (\$1,436,604 + \$143,660 contingency) by \$513,040, including additional contingency, to a total amount not to exceed \$2,093,304, and extends the term through December 31, 2026.

On September 17, 2024, the Board approved original Board Contract SCON-001743 (BC24115) for the construction of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project in a 4/5ths vote (linked here: [County of Santa Barbara - File #: 24-00945](#)).

Amendment No. 1 includes adjustments to the scope, schedule, rate schedule, and budget due to construction delays resulting from a series of storms that began October 14, 2025. The storm events that occurred between December 23, 2025 and January 4, 2026 were proclaimed a Local Emergency for the County of Santa Barbara (“2025-2026 Holiday Storms”). The additional services are necessary to maintain compliance with state regulations, the Community Workforce Agreement, and to complete the Project.

Discussion:

Multiple atmospheric river systems occurring from November 13, 2025, to January 4, 2026 resulted in heavy rain, localized flooding, high winds, minor hillside erosion, and shallow debris flows at the Tajiguas Landfill. These unforeseen site conditions impacted the Project’s construction area and were mitigated by modifying the Project’s construction sequencing and repairing damaged work, thereby increasing the remaining scope. Amendment No. 1 also addresses additional laboratory testing required for low permeability layer component of the groundwater protection system. In addition, modifications to the staffing plan, labor efforts, and associated costs are included to ensure compliance with the Community Workforce Agreement executed between the County and the Tri-County Building & Construction Trades Council and the Signatory Crafts Councils and Unions.

Background:

The Tajiguas Landfill has been in continuous operation since 1967. Tajiguas Landfill construction and operation predates the Coastal Act and CEQA. An expansion of the Tajiguas Landfill (Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project) was approved in 2002. Minor changes to the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project were approved in 2006, a reconfiguration of the waste footprint associated with the Expansion Project (Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project) was approved in 2009, and the ReSource Center was approved in 2016-17, with each project being first analyzed pursuant to the requirements of CEQA.

The Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project is part of the overall Tajiguas Landfill Capacity Increase Project now proposed to provide capacity through 2038. On March 19, 2024, the Board of Supervisors certified a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) (23EIR-00001) for, and approved, the Tajiguas Landfill Capacity Increase Project (available for review at <https://www.countyofsb.org/1165/Environmental-Documents>).

The project includes installation of a low permeability liner and engineered soil cap over a portion of the landfill that has reached its permitted capacity and a groundwater protection system for the expansion that consists of the installation of a low permeability liner with a leachate collection and recovery system (LCRS) above the liner in the area that will receive new waste. To ensure satisfactory performance, oversight of the contractor's quality control processes is being provided by Geosyntec Consultants. Geosyntec Consultant's contract BC24115 was approved by your Board of Supervisors on July 16, 2024. These services include daily reporting on the contractor's construction activities, documentation of progress and any deficiencies requiring correction, and preparation of a final certification report to be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Construction of the project began in October 2024 and is anticipated to be completed in June 2026, with Construction Management and Construction Quality Assurance services provided by Geosyntec Consultants throughout the duration of construction. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, no substantial changes have occurred to the Capacity Increase Project that is the subject of amended contract. The amended contract is needed to address costs associated with construction delays due to inclement weather and other additional construction management services that do not change the prior CEQA review.

Performance Measure:

The amended contract supports capital efforts that are measured by both ongoing deliverables and milestone achievements, as outlined below:

- Construction Management
- Construction Quality Assurance
- Engineering and Regulatory Support
- Construction Quality Assurance Final Certification Report
- Compliance with the Community Workforce Agreement

These performance outcomes are expected before the amended contract term expires.

Contract Renewals:

Geosyntec Consultants was selected through a competitive pre-qualification process and approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2024 as a pre-qualified vendor for solid waste facilities support through December 2027. The award of the contract to Geosyntec Consultants (a local vendor) is based on their firm's demonstrated competence and professional qualifications. Their knowledge of the Tajiguas Landfill, particularly their performance on numerous prior phases of the groundwater protection system, qualified them to provide Construction Management and Construction Quality Assurance services for the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project.

Amendment No. 1 grants an extension of the scope to ensure that the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Construction Project is built according to the contract

documents, on schedule, within budget, and in compliance with regulatory requirements. The performance outcomes described in the original contract have been met to date, and staff recommends continued engagement with Geosyntec Consultants to support construction efforts. All contract amendments are within the scope of services outlined in the County’s pre-qualification and contracting policy.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

As part of the Tajiguas Landfill Enhancement Project, the FY 25-26 budget is largely in the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Enterprise Fund 1930, Program 1200, Line-Item Account 8200, FIN Project 820000. The construction of the Tajiguas Landfill Enhancement Project was under budget; therefore, there is sufficient budget in Fund 1930, Program 1200, Line-Item Account 8200 to cover the increased cost in FY 25-26. The FY 26-27 cost of \$60,000, is included in the Recommended. There is no impact to the General Fund.

Funding Source	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	Total
Enterprise Fund	\$564,939.01	\$1,468,364.99	\$60,000	\$2,093,304
Total				\$2,093,304

Special Instructions:

Please send a certified, stamped Minute Order approving this action and a copy of the signed amendment to:

- Juliette Mudge, Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, AOP II at 130 E Victoria Suite 100 Santa Barbara.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Geosyntec Consultants

Contact Information:

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