



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:** July 16, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Chris Sneddon, P.E., Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Martin Wilder, P.E., Interim Deputy Director, (805) 882-3605  
Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Interim Deputy Director,  
(805) 882-3605  
**SUBJECT:** Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA, Fiscal  
Year 2024/25 and 2025/26, County Project No. 828985, Third Supervisorial  
District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: CEO Budget**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (a local vendor) in an amount not to exceed \$1,436,604 to provide construction management, construction quality assurance services, and engineering support for the construction of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project, County Project No. 828985;
- b) Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to approve change orders with Geosyntec Consultants for a contingency amount up to \$143,660, for a total not-to-exceed authorization of \$1,580,264;
- c) Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Public Works Director, or his designee, with consent of the Treasurer-Tax Collector, Auditor-Controller and County Counsel, to establish a performance security acceptable to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in the approximate amount of \$1,051,139.70 necessary to obtain an Incidental Take Permit for the Crotch's bumblebee, a candidate species for listing on the California Endangered Species Act;

- d) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0009799 increasing appropriations in the amount of \$1,051,140 in the Public Works Resource Recovery and Waste Management Enterprise Fund to establish the financial assurances mechanism for the Crotch's Bumblebee Conceptual Habitat Mitigation & Monitoring Plan as outlined by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Attachment C) (4/5 vote);
- e) 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 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. Therefore, the above actions including approval of 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.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda in order to award a contract necessary for the Construction Management (CM) and Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill Groundwater Protection System Phase IVA Project, Fiscal Year 2024/25 and 2025/26, County Project No. 828985, and to establish financial security for the Crotch's bumblebee (CBB) Incidental Take Permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The security is required to ensure that mitigation efforts required to fully offset impacts to CBB resulting from construction of the Tajiguas Landfill Capacity Increase project, and required long-term conservation, are successfully implemented by the County.

**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, there will be oversight of the contractor’s quality control processes by a third party acting as Construction Manager and Construction Quality Assurance Monitor (Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.) that will consist of daily reporting of the contractor’s successful progress and any deficiencies to be corrected, and preparation of a final certification report to be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Construction of the project and the associated construction management and quality assurance services will begin in August 2024.

Mitigation measures and an Incidental Take permit from the CDFW are required to address impacts to the CBB. The Incidental Take Permit requires a financial security to cover land acquisition, initial start-up of mitigation activities, interim management activities, and long-term management/conservation activities. Mitigation activities will consist of hydroseeding cut slopes with a coastal sage scrub mix at the Tajiguas Landfill and restoration and enhancement of habitat at the Baron Ranch. Restored and enhanced areas at the Baron Ranch will be required to be placed in a conservation easement by CDFW. Release of the security would occur when performance standards for the restored/enhanced areas are met, the conservation easement is recorded, and an endowment is established for long-term management. Staff will return to the Board separately, at a later date, to establish the required conservation easement.

This Board item only recommends awarding construction management, quality assurance, and engineering services. Construction of this project was bid in accordance with the Public Contract Code, which requires the contract be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. On June 4, 2024, three bids were received. All three bids were significantly higher than the Engineer’s Estimate for the project. Public Works Department staff reviewed the bids and found several irregularities, some of which were material variances. Additionally, two bid protests were submitted. Therefore, pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22038 and Contract Specifications section 2-1.46, staff is rejecting all bids and readvertising construction of the project.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2024/25 Cost</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2025/26 Cost</u></b>
Enterprise Fund	\$ 1,949,018	\$ 682,387

Narrative:  
Construction management costs are included in the proposed FY 2024/25 Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division Enterprise Fund 1930, Line Item Account 8200, Program 1200. Staff is recommending approval of BJE-0009799 to establish a security mechanism with California Department of Fish and Wildlife for \$1,051,140, funded by the release in Retained Earnings from the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division Enterprise Fund 1930, Program 1200. There is no impact to the General Fund.

**Key Contract Risks:**

Key risk factors include: contract size, performance period, project sensitivity, contract management, and fiscal responsibility of the contractor.

These risk factors have been evaluated and staff believes the risk for the contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. is low and should be authorized because the contractor has successfully performed numerous tasks previously for the County with no significant issues during their performance over the past thirteen years. This consistent performance mitigates potential risks identified above.

**Special Instructions:**

Please forward a certified, stamped Minute Order approving this action to Jamie Perry and Joddi Leipner at Public Works, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD):  
130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 100, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor – Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.  
Attachment B: Performance Security Resolution  
Attachment C: Budget Revision No. 0009799

**Authored by:**

Jamie Perry, P.E., Civil Engineer Specialist, (805) 882-3625  
Joddi Leipner, Environmental Engineering Project Leader, (805) 882-3614

**Copy:**

Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Interim Deputy Director  
Travis Spier, P.E., Operations Manager