



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:** Planning and  
Development  
**Department No.:** 053  
**For Agenda Of:** May 1, 2012  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Glenn Russell, Ph.D., Director, (805) 568-2085  
Director(s) Planning and Development

Contact Info: Alice McCurdy, Deputy Director, (805) 568-2518  
Development Review Division – South

**SUBJECT:** Authorization of Professional Services Contract with AMEC Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc. to Prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the Goleta Beach County Park Managed Beach Retreat Project 2.0.

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**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Accept United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Grant for Goleta Beach Park Coastal Access and Recreational Enhancement (Goleta Beach 2.0) #F12AF00307 in the amount of \$1,501,322
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request (attached) establishing appropriations totaling \$310,000 in Community Services Department General Fund for the purposes of funding continuing work on the Goleta Beach 2.0 project as follows:
  - i. \$20,000 for continuing preliminary design work
  - ii. \$90,000 for Department of Planning and Development review and processing of Environmental Impact Report
  - iii. \$200,000 for cost of Environmental Impact Report preparation
- c) Approve and authorize a professional services contract with AMEC (a local contractor) to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Goleta Beach County Park Managed Beach Retreat Project 2.0 for the period May 1, 2012 through September 1, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$194,094, which includes a base cost of \$176,449 as proposed by the consultant and a 10 percent contingency cost of \$17,645 (Attachment A).

### **Summary Text:**

The Goleta Beach County Park Managed Beach Retreat Project 2.0 (Goleta Beach 2.0) may have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, requires an EIR under Section 15064 of the *Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act* (CEQA Guidelines). On September 20, 2011, the Board of Supervisors authorized staff to solicit proposals for preparing the EIR for Goleta Beach 2.0. On December 2, 2011, the Planning and Development Department (P&D) sent a Request For Proposals (RFP) for preparing the EIR to five consulting firms. P&D received five proposals, two of which P&D staff determined best responded to the RFP. Staff subsequently engaged the two final consultants in a Best and Final proposal process with the goal of refining both proposals for final consideration. In consultation with the County Executive Office, P&D staff selected AMEC to prepare the EIR. The cost of preparing the EIR is not to exceed \$194,094. Attachment A includes the professional services contract and proposal. Board authorization of the contract is required because the contract amount exceeds \$100,000.

### **Background:**

#### Goleta Beach

Goleta Beach County Park is a 29-acre County park located in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County, California, approximately one-third mile east of the University of California Santa Barbara and one-half mile south of the City of Goleta in the Second Supervisorial District. The park is a popular day-use facility that receives approximately 1.6 million visitors per year. It encompasses 4,200 feet of beach frontage and includes, but is not limited to, a 1,500 foot pier, restaurant, snack bar, playground, restrooms, picnic tables, barbecue grills, parking lots, and large lawn areas.

In the late 1990s through 2003, several major storms eroded the beach, resulting in the loss of lawn and other park amenities. Emergency rock revetments were placed along the beach to protect the park. The California Coastal Commission (CCC) granted approval of the emergency rock revetments for a 30-month period to allow the County to complete a master planning process to develop a long-term protection plan for the park. This approval also required that soft approaches to shoreline protection from erosion be studied.

#### Beach Stabilization/Permeable Pile Groin

In February 2003, the County initiated a community master planning process to focus on options for long-term protection of park resources and enhancement of the public beach. Two visioning sessions were held in Fall 2003, and an 18-member Working Group was formed with the objective of reaching consensus on the future configuration and protection of the park. Most members of the Working Group favored beach stabilization with revetments, permeable pile groin, and/or similar hard structures as the primary line of defense against beach erosion. Others favored a more natural approach (i.e., “managed beach retreat”) that would allow the shoreline to migrate back and forth over time. In December 2005, the County Board of Supervisors directed the County Parks Department to “. . . initiate environmental review of a long term project for Goleta Beach that provides for a recreation beach and park, and that also considers and addresses sand nourishment and managed retreat options as required by the CCC [California Coastal Commission].” The County prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) (Chambers Group; March 2007) that analyzed the beach stabilization/permeable pile groin option and the managed beach retreat option as co-equal projects. The County circulated the DEIR for public

comments and received and prepared written responses to 45 comments letters. However, the County did not certify a Final EIR.

The beach stabilization/permeable pile groin option featured a permeable pile groin that would reduce the longshore sediment transport rate and, as a result, create and maintain a wider beach for shore protection and recreation. This option included an approximately 500-foot long, 20-foot wide permeable pier groin, seasonal installation of an approximately 1,200-foot long, 3 to 5-foot high winter sand berm, removal of approximately 1,500 linear feet of rock rip rap, repair of approximately 650 linear feet of revetment, and offshore dredging of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of sand. The managed beach retreat option would allow the shoreline position to evolve naturally over time. In general, this option included relocating park facilities and utilities landward, removing sections of existing rock revetments, and creating a land/sand “buffer zone.”

The beach stabilization/permeable pile groin option would have been located on tidelands and, therefore, located within an area where the Coastal Commission has retained jurisdiction over the issuance of Coastal Development Permits. In April 2008, the County submitted an application for a Coastal Development Permit to the Coastal Commission for the beach stabilization/permeable pile groin option (Application Number 4-08-006). As part of the application, the County combined the DEIR, public comments on the DEIR, and responses to public comments into one document titled *Environmental Analysis and Public Response, Goleta Beach Park Coastal Access and Recreation Enhancement – Beach Sand Stabilization* (Chambers Group, Inc.; April 22, 2008). On July 8, 2009, the Coastal Commission conducted a public hearing and denied the project.

In September 2010, your Board authorized the Parks Department to initiate engineering studies for a new managed beach retreat option. In general, this option includes relocating park facilities and utilities landward, removing sections of existing unpermitted rock revetments, and creating a land/sand “buffer zone.”

In October 2011, the Community Services Department submitted applications to the County Planning and Development Department (P&D) for a Development Plan (11DVP-00000-00016) and Coastal Development Permit (11CDP-00000-00069) for the managed beach retreat project. The project may have a significant impact on the environment and, as a result, the permit process includes the preparation of an EIR. Following Board approval of the contract, P&D will prepare and issue a Notice to Proceed to AMEC to commence preparation of the EIR once your Board has authorized funds for the project.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The recommended action establishes appropriations totaling \$310,000 for continuing preliminary design work (\$20,000), as well as expenditures pertaining to the processing and preparation of the Environmental Impact report (\$290,000). Later phases of the project will likely be transferred to Fund 0031 (Parks Department Capital Projects) the remaining grant allocation will be appropriated and recognized as revenue in the year in which it is to be spent. The project will also reimburse P&D for all staff time spent working on the project. The Community Services Department will pay the full amount of the professional services contract. P&D staff time is budgeted in the Operating Expenditures (Permitting & Compliance) of the Development Review Division – South on page D-314 of the County of Santa Barbara Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012 Operating Plan. Funding for the Environmental Impact Report and oversight work conducted via the Planning and Development Department is to be funding via a grant from the United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Services (#

F12AF00307). The grant is specifically to be used for the Goleta Beach 2.0 project as defined to include components of coastal access, beach nourishment, partial managed retreat and recreation enhancement to provide for the long terms sustainability of the park. The County of Santa Barbara received Notice of Financial Assistance Award on April 12, 2012 in the amount of \$1,501,322, with an effective grant start date of February 21, 2012.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

This action provides for the receipt of an increase in appropriation of \$310,000 in funding dedicated to the Goleta Beach 2.0 Project funded through the United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service's Grant. The contractor will submit invoices for completed tasks to P&D for review and approval. P&D will forward all approved invoices to the Community Services Department for payment.

**Special Instructions:**

The Clerk of the Board will forward a copy of the Minute Order to P&D, attention Elisa Moser.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor between the County of Santa Barbara and AMEC Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., including the Proposal to Prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the Goleta Beach County Park Managed Beach Retreat Project 2.0 (AMEC; February 27, 2012)
- Attachment B: Budget Revision Request #0002178
- Attachment C: Grant Award Letter – Notice of Financial Assistance and Supplemental Project Title

**Authored by:**

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**CC:**

Case File (Kevin Drude, Supervising Planner)