



**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: General Services
Department No.: 063
Agenda Date: March 4, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director: Kirk Lagerquist, Director, General Services

Contact Info: Ted Teyber, Assistant Director, General Services (805) 568-3083

DocuSigned by:
Kirk Lagerquist
19AEDA90054E4CE...

SUBJECT: Authorize the County Purchasing Agent to Issue a Purchase Order to Frank Ramirez Consulting to Provide Governmental Relations Services Related to Funding Outreach for Costs Associated with the Regional Water Quality Control Board – Central Coast Region Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R3-2023-0070; Fourth Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the County Purchasing Agent to Issue a Purchase Order to Frank Ramirez Consulting, in an amount not to exceed \$11,250, for a six-month term, to provide governmental relations services related to seeking funding sources related to Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R3-2023-0070 issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board – Central Coast Region for 2936 Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, California (majority vote); and
- b) Determine that the above action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) because it consists of government administrative or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment (majority vote).

Summary Text:

This item is before the Board to authorize the County Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order for services with Frank Ramirez Consulting who will provide governmental relations services jointly on behalf of the County and the City of Santa Maria under the scope of the Common Interest Agreement, to continue to seek funding to address contamination related to a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO). The CAO was issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board – Central Coast Region (Regional Water Board) for alleged historic discharges of pollutants at 2936 Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, California from approximately 1949 to 2002, during which time SEMCO Twist Drill and Tool Company, Inc. (SEMCO) reportedly operated a precision tool manufacturing business on the site. The CAO can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board’s Geotracker website: [Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R3-2020-0018 \(ca.gov\)](#)

Background:

On September 26, 2023, the Regional Water Board issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R3-2023-0070 (CAO) to various entities, including the County, City, and the Santa Maria Public Airport District (District), concerning the real property at 2936 Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, California. The CAO mandates an investigation and cleanup of trichloroethylene (TCE), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), petroleum hydrocarbons, and 1,4-dioxane in soil, soil gas, and groundwater around the site. The Regional Water Board attributes liability to the County and City's co-ownership from 1949 to 1964 and the Airport District's ownership from 1964 to 1968, during which SEMCO operated on the site and allegedly used TCE or other VOCs in its precision tool manufacturing business.

The County, City, and District have entered into a Common Interest Agreement approved by the Board on January 23, 2024 that outlines shared responsibilities among the parties, all public agencies with overlapping jurisdictions. It emphasizes cooperation and cost-sharing of efforts, including to identify and secure funding from state resources and programs. The County and City are participating in the proposed efforts to obtain funding to investigate regional impacts. The services in recommendation a) will provide for the ongoing governmental relations services to seek and apply for possible funding to address the contamination at the site. This will include meeting with various offices of federal, state and local elected and regulatory officials, including the State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Board, Legislators, and the Governor’s office, to assist in the process to identify site funding, as well as applying for funding through various sources.

This item is being brought to the Board as an administrative item because the prior contract on this matter was previously approved by the Board and relates to the terms of the Common Interest Agreement regarding the coordination with elected and regulatory officials.

Performance Measure:

The consultant will engage with USEPA, the City of Santa Maria, and the County of Santa Barbara to facilitate, complete, and submit an application to the USEPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment Grant Program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 24-25	Total
General Fund	\$11,250	\$11,250
State		
Federal		
Fees		
Total	\$11,250	\$11,250

Pursuant to Paragraph 3 of the Common Interest Agreement approved on January 23, 2024, the County’s recommended agreement represents its portion of the costs split with the City of Santa Maria. Funds are available in the General Services FY 2024-25 Approved Budget to cover the County’s portion of these costs.

Authored by: Ted Teyber, Assistant Director, General Services