



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

Department Name:

Public Works

Department Number:

054

Agenda Date:

July 07, 2026

Placement:

Administrative Agenda

Estimated Time:

N/A

Continued Item:

No

If Yes, date from:

N/A

Vote Required:

Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., Public Works Director

^{DS}
CS

CONTACT: Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Deputy Director

^{DS}
JGK

SUBJECT: Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Tetra Tech BAS, Inc.; Third Supervisorial District

Concurrences:

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Tetra Tech BAS, Inc. (Tetra Tech) to provide engineering design and engineering support for the construction of the ReSource Center Biogas Upgrade

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Project, County Project No. 828998 and for the construction of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill, Landfill Gas Treatment System Replacement Project, County Project No. 828997 for a term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$305,174; and

- b) Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guideline Sections 15378(b)(5), finding that the action consists of administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is before the Board to approve an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Tetra Tech BAS, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$305,174 for engineering design and engineering support services associated with two critical infrastructure projects at the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center. The Agreement will support the design and construction of a replacement landfill gas treatment system and upgrades to the anaerobic digestion facility biogas treatment system for a term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

These projects are necessary to maintain compliance with air quality regulations, improve the reliability of gas treatment operations, and support continued energy production from landfill gas and biogas generated at County solid waste facilities. If the Agreement is not approved, project implementation could be delayed, increasing the risk of equipment failure, operational disruptions, and continued regulatory compliance challenges.

Discussion:

The Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division (RRWMD) operates the County's solid waste disposal, recycling, and organics processing facilities, including the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center. These facilities are subject to extensive federal, state, and local regulatory requirements governing air emissions and environmental protection. The proposed Agreement will provide engineering design, permitting support, and construction engineering services for two related projects that improve the treatment of landfill gas and biogas generated at County facilities. Tetra Tech was selected through a competitive procurement process and possesses specialized expertise in landfill gas and biogas treatment systems.

Landfill Gas Treatment System Replacement Project:

The existing landfill gas treatment system removes hydrogen sulfide from landfill gas before it is used for energy generation. The system has been in service since 2015 and is exhibiting significant corrosion and deterioration associated with normal wear and exposure to landfill gas constituents. Replacement of the system is necessary to maintain compliance with air quality permit requirements and ensure continued safe and reliable operations.

The project will construct a replacement treatment system adjacent to existing gas treatment infrastructure at the ReSource Center. Consolidating treatment facilities in a single location will improve operational efficiency, simplify maintenance activities, and provide long-term reliability for the County's landfill gas collection and energy recovery systems.

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Biogas Upgrade Project:

The Anaerobic Digestion Facility generates renewable biogas through the processing of organic materials. Existing treatment equipment has not consistently removed certain compounds from the biogas stream, contributing to operational challenges and air emission compliance concerns.

Engineering evaluations determined that modifications originally contemplated for the facility would not adequately address these issues. The proposed project will instead route biogas to the gas treatment systems at the Materials Recovery Facility, where it will receive additional treatment before being returned for energy production. This approach is expected to improve treatment performance, support regulatory compliance, and help the County transition the facility out of its current Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District variance status.

Background:

To ensure continued regulatory compliance and reliable operations, the RRWMD intends to construct a replacement landfill gas treatment system on the '380 deck, south of the existing Material Recovery Facility at the ReSource Center. This will consolidate infrastructure that treats landfill gas into one area and will require the appropriate review from Planning and Development, air quality permitting by the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, and other approvals as necessary prior to construction. The original Tajiguas Landfill Gas Collection and Control System was permitted in the coastal zone under 95-CDP-118/95-CP-046.

Tetra Tech 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 Tetra Tech is based on their firm's demonstrated competence and professional qualifications. Their knowledge of the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center, particularly their evaluation of prior performance of the Anaerobic Digestion Facility qualified them to provide engineering design and construction quality assurance services. Construction of the capital improvement projects will be competitively bid. The construction contract is anticipated to be awarded in September 2026, with work beginning in November 2026.

Performance Measures:

The expected performance outcomes for this contract are tied to clear engineering and design milestones outlined in the consultant's project proposal which is included in the agreement for infrastructure improvements. Tetra Tech will achieve the project objectives through a structured timeline of deliverables, which includes the submittal of a 50 percent conceptual design and engineer's cost estimate, followed by comprehensive 95 percent and 100 percent final design packages containing construction drawings, technical specifications, and bid schedules. Additional performance milestones include providing mandatory pre-bid meeting support, delivering up to four weeks of full-time construction quality assurance monitoring during the construction phase, and submitting final record drawings before the contract term concludes on June 30, 2027.

Contract Renewals:

Tetra Tech is an established vendor on the Public Works Department's pre-qualified professional services list, which remains valid through December 2027. The vendor was selected through a competitive pre-qualification process where a County selected committee reviewed and ranked

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multiple firms, identifying Tetra Tech BAS, Inc. as one of the top qualified consultants to support solid waste facilities. Over the past 10 years, the consultant has successfully performed numerous engineering tasks for the County with no significant performance issues. The division has assigned an overall low contract risk rating to this agreement due to the vendor's proven fiscal responsibility, secure enterprise funding, and specialized historical knowledge of the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center facilities.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Costs are budgeted in the RRWMD Enterprise Fund FD-1930, Spend Category SC-8200, Program PG-0541750 and PG-0541860. Cost estimated for these services are to be incurred in fiscal year 2026/2027. There is no impact to the General Fund.

| Funding Source | FY 26/27 | Total |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Enterprise | \$305,174 | \$305,174 |
| Total | \$305,174 | \$305,174 |

Special Instructions:

Please forward a copy of the executed Agreements and the Minute Order approving this action to:

- Juliette Mudge, Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, AOP II at mudgej@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A – Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor – Tetra Tech BAS, Inc. *(Signature needed)*

Contact Information:

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