

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 7/22/04
Department Name: Parks
Department No.: 052
Agenda Date: 8/3/04
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Terri Maus-Nisich
Parks Director

STAFF CONTACT: Mike Gibson
Business Manager (568-2477)

SUBJECT: Amendment to Lifeguard Services Contract for Goleta Beach, Arroyo Burro Beach, Jalama Beach, and Cachuma Lake

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors execute the first amendment to agreement with the California Lifesaving Association (CLA) for lifeguard and related services at Goleta Beach, Arroyo Burro Beach, Jalama Beach, and Cachuma Lake for the period of May 26, 2004 to October 31, 2004, in an amount not to exceed \$231,344, with two one-year renewal options, for an amount not to exceed \$249,852 for each of the two subsequent renewal years (2005 and 2006).

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2 – A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On May 25, 2004, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement with the California Lifesaving Association (CLA) for lifeguard and related services at Goleta Beach, Arroyo Burro Beach, Jalama Beach, and Cachuma Lake for the 2004 summer season. As part of the Board's action approving the contract, staff was directed to work with CLA to limit the amount of beach grooming performed at Goleta Beach to only the three summer holiday weekends (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day). In discussing this change with CLA subsequent to the Board's action on May 25, it was determined that this limited amount of beach grooming could be more cost-effectively performed by Parks Department staff rather than CLA. Therefore, the contract needs to be amended to eliminate the beach grooming service, at a cost savings of \$4,500 for the 2004 season.

In addition, subsequent to the Board's approval of the contract on May 25, staff was notified that the final quote for liability insurance coverage for CLA, which was originally estimated at \$35,000, came in at \$77,618 (\$42,618 higher than the amount stated in the original contract). The original contract presented to the Board was the "best estimate" for liability coverage, as provided by CLA. The cost increase is attributable to several factors including the limited market for this particular type of coverage and changes in the insurance industry in recent years given the level of exposure and amount of assumed risk for this type of coverage. Liability insurance costs are directly passed on to the Parks Department in the contract, since County Parks is CLA's only client for the lifeguard service.

The proposed amendment (attached) to the agreement will address both the removal of beach cleaning services at Goleta Beach (savings of \$4,500) as well as the increase in liability insurance costs (increase of \$42,618). The net increase in the overall contract amount, therefore, is \$38,118 (from \$193,226 to \$231,344).

With regard to the beach grooming at Goleta Beach, Parks staff has been in contact with staff from the California Coastal Commission who have assured us that our current beach grooming practices are within California Coastal Act policies and guidelines and do not require special permitting. We have requested this opinion in writing from the Coastal Commission. Grooming has not occurred, however, at Goleta Beach due, in part, to beach cleaning equipment failure as well as CLA not being able to provide the grooming in a cost-effective manner.

Due to the increase in liability insurance costs (\$77,618), in conjunction with increased service days requested at Jalama Beach (\$4,698) and inflationary increases (\$4,818), there is an \$87,134 increase in the total amount of the contract from the last contract period (from \$144,210 in 2003 to \$231,344 in 2004). The amended contract would allow for two, one-year renewal options for 2005 and 2006, which could be approved by the Parks Director provided the annual amount of the contract does not exceed \$249,852 (representing a 4% annual adjustment) in either of these two renewal years.

However, given the significant cost increase from last year, staff will be exploring other more cost-effective alternatives for providing lifeguard service for the next contract period before exercising a renewal option with CLA. Such alternatives could include partnering with other agencies (cities, counties, or state), providing services in-house, other contracting opportunities, etc. If a viable alternative is identified in this process, staff will return to the Board with a recommendation prior to the next lifeguard season.

Mandates and Service Levels:

There are no mandates or changes in service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The cost of the amended 2004 lifeguard services contract (\$231,344) is included in the Parks Department's FY 2003-04 adopted budget and FY 2004-05 proposed budget as follows:

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Department 052, Fund 0001, Program 0301 (South County Day Use Parks), Line Item Account 7460 – \$114,052

Department 052, Fund 0001, Program 0704 (Jalama Beach Camping Park), Line Item Account 7460 – \$71,717

Department 052, Fund 0001, Program 0703 (Cachuma Lake Camping Park), Line Item Account 7460 – \$45,575

The total amount of the amended lifeguard services agreement for 2004 is \$231,344. The total amount of the agreement, if renewed, will not exceed \$249,852 for either 2005 or 2006 without Board approval.

There is no impact to facilities.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board to forward executed copy of agreement to Parks Department/Administration, Attn.: Mike Gibson.

Concurrence:

Auditor-Controller
County Counsel

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Proposed Amendment to Agreement Between Santa Barbara County and the California Lifesaving Association (CLA)

Attachment 2 – Amended Proposal from the California Lifesaving Association (CLA) for 2004 Lifeguard and Related Services