



Agenda Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

File Code No. 540.09

# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** May 1, 2012

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Increase In Professional Services For Computer Modeling Of The Gibraltar Pass Through Operations

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to negotiate and execute a contract amendment for an increase in the scope of work in the amount of \$34,469, and an increase in extra services authorization of \$3,450 under Agreement No. 23,185 with Stetson Engineers, for computer modeling and documentation related to the Upper Santa Ynez River Operations Agreement, for an amended total authority of \$78,619.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 1989, the City entered into the Upper Santa Ynez River Operations Agreement (USYROA), also known as the "Pass Through Agreement." The agreement settled a lawsuit to resolve issues regarding Santa Ynez River water rights. Under the agreement, the City agreed to defer the enlargement of Gibraltar Reservoir in exchange for the right to utilize Lake Cachuma for storage and conveyance of water that would have otherwise been captured by the enlarged Gibraltar Reservoir.

Due to significant siltation resulting from the Zaca Fire, the City elected to enter the "Pass Through" mode of operations under which Gibraltar water is stored in Lake Cachuma. Lake Cachuma is a federal water project, and federal law requires that the City enter into a "Warren Act" contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to provide for storage and conveyance of non-project water in a federal project.

On August 25, 2009, Council approved Agreement No. 23,185 with Stetson Engineers to provide computer modeling services and documentation in the amount of \$36,549, with extra services authorization of \$4,151, for a total contract amount of up to \$40,700, in support of environmental analysis required as a part of developing the Warren Act contract.

**DISCUSSION:**

Agreement No. 23,185 provides for Stetson Engineers to modify the existing Santa Ynez River Hydrology Model to simulate Pass Through operations, perform computer runs of a number of different scenarios, and summarize the resulting information in a technical report for review by the Technical Committee that administers operations under the USYROA. The draft report has been completed and reviewed by the Technical Committee, which has raised questions that require further analysis through modeling in order to clarify the outcomes and will require that the report be revised to include a discussion of the additional analysis. Additionally, it will facilitate the process of developing the Warren Act contract to have continued access to Stetson Engineers for technical review and input to address questions that can be expected to arise. The recommended amount of the increase in the scope of work will provide sufficient funding for Stetson Engineers to address the questions raised by the Technical Committee, and provide ongoing technical assistance during the environmental review process and issuance of the Warren Act contract.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

There are sufficient funds in the Fiscal Year 2012 Water Fund Operating Budget for the recommended extra services, which would result in a total project authorization of \$78,619.

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager/BF/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office