



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 3, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of Consulting Services For Sewer Maintenance And Operations Training For Wastewater Collection Field Crews

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a professional services agreement with Tilson & Associates, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$59,268, for onsite sewer system operation and maintenance training services. .

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department's Wastewater Collection division maintains approximately 257 miles of sanitary sewer lines. The primary objective for the division is to perform timely maintenance and repair of the wastewater collection system to prevent sanitary sewer overflows. Important to this effort are thorough and periodic pipe cleaning and accurate recordkeeping.

The proposed consulting services will provide the Wastewater Collection division staff with field operations training and documentation of updated procedures for both standard and emergency operations. The field training will assess existing cleaning practices and provide updated procedures that ensure higher efficiency, effectiveness, and accurate data collection. Documentation of the new standard operating procedures will codify best practices taught to crews for cleaning sewer mains, selecting cleaning tools, data collection, record keeping, and inventory management.

Tilson & Associates, LLC (Tilson), has provided similar services to many public sewer collection agencies and has a successful record of providing technical training to public agency sewer collection field employees, resulting in improved system performance. Contract services will be provided over eighteen months.

Staff has negotiated reduced consulting rates with Tilson that are lower than the rates charged to other public entities for similar consulting work. The negotiated proposal and rates are acceptable to Tilson.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

There are sufficient appropriated funds in the Wastewater Operating Fund to cover the cost of the onsite consulting services.

At the July 3, 2012 Water Commission meeting, the Board of Water Commissioners unanimously approved staff's recommendation.

PREPARED BY: Christopher Toth, Wastewater System Manager/avb

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office