



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 2, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Authorization Of El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Conveyor Belt Repair Expenditures

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve emergency Purchase Order No. 77895 in the total amount of \$225,000, which includes a base amount of \$187,000 plus a 20% contingency of \$38,000, for the repair of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Conveyor Belt.

DISCUSSION:

On Tuesday, August 21, 2012, the biosolids conveyor belt at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (EEWWTP) broke and derailed, causing biosolids to spill to the floor of the Solids Handling Building. Wastewater staff opened Emergency Purchase Order #77890 for \$25,000 with Lash Construction to assist plant staff with the cleanup, assessment, and installation of a temporary conveyor belt system.

Upon the assessment of the derailed biosolids conveyor belt, it was determined that many worn items are in need of replacement. The items that need to be replaced include the following: the complete belting with preassembled stainless steel hardware, the complete chain assembly with attachments and guide blocks, the chain master link assemblies, the vertical curve steel track, the wear liner for the entire conveyor (except the drive station), and the conveyor auger liners.

At this time, we estimate that the required repairs will cost approximately \$225,000, and completion is estimated within 35 days (by the end of October). Due to the emergency nature of this work, the City has issued an Emergency Purchase Order pursuant to Municipal Code Section 4.52.080. This Purchase Order was issued to Lash Construction, Incorporated, on September 24, 2012. Since the cost of the work will exceed the City Administrator's authority, staff is requesting that Council approve payment of the emergency repairs.

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The biosolids conveyor belt system transports the biosolids from the belt press to the hopper, where it is transferred to a truck for reuse or disposal. The biosolids conveyor belt is considered a single point of failure because there is no redundant system. While the biosolids conveyor belt is being repaired, staff is using a temporary system to get the biosolids from the belt presses to the trucks. A separate purchase order was issued for the temporary conveyor belt system. This purchase order was for \$25,000, which is within the City Administrator's authority.

The biosolids conveyor belt system at the EEWTP was installed in the year 2002. Over the past 10 years, the equipment has been maintained and regularly inspected. Once the repairs have been completed, the biosolids conveyor belt system should be able to stay in service for an additional 7 to 10 years, during which time EEWTP staff will be able to conduct an overall solids treatment processes assessment study.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

There are sufficient appropriated funds in the Wastewater Capital Fund to cover these emergency repair costs.

PREPARED BY: Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager/AF/mh

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office