



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 10, 2014

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Sole Source Contract For Flow Metering And Sampling Maintenance Services For The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve, and authorize the Public Works Director to execute, a City Professional Services contract with Utility Systems, Science and Software, Inc., in the amount of \$44,728 for flow metering and sampling services for the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to \$4,473 for extra services of Utility Systems, Science and Software, Inc., that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

BACKGROUND

The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero) treats an average of approximately 7 million gallons of wastewater each day. However, plant influent measurements, such as flow and loading (concentration of constituents) into El Estero, are not directly monitored; the flow and sampling measurements are taken on the confluent line, which is located downstream of the Influent Pump Station, and they include recycled flows from several other plant processes. Staff needs to accurately determine influent flows and loadings into El Estero, rather than continue to rely on confluent measurements.

In 2012, Council authorized the City to enter into a contract with V&A Consulting Engineers, Inc., (V&A) to install flow meters and samplers on El Estero's four influent lines. The hardware for the meters and samplers was procured in 2012, and the installation was completed in 2013. As part of the City's contract with V&A, they were to maintain the meters and record the flows. However, staff has encountered maintenance problems associated with the meters and samplers, and questions the validity of the samples and accuracy of the flow data collected.

Given the current maintenance issues with the flow meters and samplers, a specialized contractor is needed to provide these flow metering and sampling maintenance services. As such, the City has terminated its remaining contract with V&A and proposes to enter into a one-year contract with Utility Systems, Science and Software, Inc., (US3).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The work to be performed by US3 generally includes verifying the accuracy of the existing flow metering and sampling equipment, calibrating meters and samplers to accurately collect and record the desired data, providing ongoing routine maintenance of the meters and samplers for one year, uploading the recorded flow data to cloud-based software, and training El Estero staff on basic troubleshooting. Staff will return to Council to seek a long-term maintenance contract for the samplers and meters once the one-year maintenance contract has ended.

CONSULTANT ENGINEERING SERVICES

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with US3 in the amount of \$49,201 for flow monitoring and sampling verification and maintenance services. US3 is experienced in this type of work and successfully completed a comparable sewer system flow/sampling study associated with the City's wastewater rate study in mid-2013. US3's current proposal was analyzed by staff, and it has been determined that US3 proposes these services at a reasonable cost.

FUNDING

The following summarizes all estimated total Project costs:

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

Flow Metering and Sampling Verification and Maintenance Services w/ Extra Services (by Contract)	\$49,201
Project Management (City Staff)	\$17,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$66,201

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

PREPARED BY: Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager/LA/mh
SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director
APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office