



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 15, 2014

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facility Planning and Development Division, Airport Department

SUBJECT: Tecolotito Creek Berm And Verhelle Bridge Year 8; Basin E/F Tidal Restoration Year 4 And Monitoring Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Airport Director to execute a contract with URS Corporation for post-construction biological monitoring for the Basin E/F Tidal Restoration Project, in an amount not to exceed \$64,177, and authorize the Airport Director to approve expenditures up to \$6,417 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

Tecolotito Creek Berm and Verhelle Bridge Restoration Sites were constructed in 2006. In 2013 they did not meet the native plant cover criteria required under the permit for the Airfield Safety Projects. Additional seeding and weeding took place in April 2014. The work in this contract will provide final monitoring and reporting to complete these two mitigation projects.

The Tidal Restoration Demonstration Project also began in February 2006 to determine the ecological and safety effects of restoring tidal circulation in the Goleta Slough. That project demonstrated an increase in biodiversity with a decrease in bird-aircraft strike hazard (BASH) risk. In September 2010, the Airport Department began construction of the Basin E/F Tidal Restoration Project as final biological mitigation for the Airfield Safety Projects. The work under this contract will be monitoring and maintenance of the Basin E/F Restoration Site for year 4 of the Airport's 7 year mitigation monitoring permit obligation.

Consultant Selection

In September 2006, the Airport solicited for biological monitoring and reporting services associated with this project. Consistent with federal requirements, the consultant selection process followed federal guidelines, which require selection based on the qualifications of the consultant, not a fee-based bid. The fee is negotiated after the best-qualified consultant is identified.

Requests for Proposals were sent to qualified firms, and four responses were received. All four responding firms were interviewed and URS Corporation was ranked as having the best qualifications for the work involved.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for this contract are available in the Airport Department Operating Budget.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

This contract will further the City's sustainability program by enhancing the Goleta Slough Reserve ecosystem and protecting it from threats such as invasive plant species.

PREPARED BY: Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner

SUBMITTED BY: Hazel Johns, Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office