



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: May 10, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Contract For Water Main Design Services

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City Professional Services Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for On-Call Water Main Design Services.

DISCUSSION:

Background

Council has had a goal of replacing one percent (three miles) of the water distribution system (system) each year through the annual water main replacement program. In response to the drought, the Water Main Replacement Program was suspended in 2013. The drought also forced operating changes in the system to accommodate for inflows from the City's various groundwater wells, which has put extra demands on the system. The changes to the system operating conditions, coupled with aging infrastructure, have resulted in the system experiencing 116 water main breaks over the past 12 months. This is a significant increase over recent years, in which water main breaks have generally totaled 60 to 80 per year.

Project Description

This proposed design contract will help to reinstate the Water Main Replacement Program. Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec), will provide survey, drafting, and engineering design services to support the water main replacement projects. Stantec's first task will be to design one mile of water mains, for immediate construction, under a water main replacement project that is currently out for bid. The water mains are located at critical areas in the system and have been prioritized for replacement. The remainder of Stantec's contract will be to provide on-call engineering design services for water main emergency replacements on an as-needed basis.

Considering the backlog of water main design work, and additional changes anticipated for the system, such as the reactivation of the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant in October 2016, issuing an on-call contract for water main design services is the most effective method for responding to emergency water main replacements.

Consultant Selection Process for Engineering Services

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent out to seven engineering firms, and five proposals were received. The proposals were evaluated and ranked based on a demonstrated understanding of the project and qualifications to perform the work, with Stantec being ranked first of the five. The on-call engineering design contract is for an initial term of two years.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Stantec in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for design. This design contract could support up to eight miles of water main replacement projects, depending on the number and complexity of the projects. Stantec is experienced in this type of work and has successfully performed similar services for the City.

Community Outreach

Community outreach in the form of direct mails, postings on Nextdoor.com, and the City's website will be used to support specific construction projects as they are developed and put out to bid.

Project Funding

The total design cost for this work is approximately \$690,000. In addition to the \$600,000 contract with Stantec, it is estimated that \$90,000 will be needed for project management by City staff and to complete the necessary environmental assessments. The design contract is funded by the Water Fund over two fiscal years. It is anticipated that \$200,000 of the contract will be expended in Fiscal Year 2016, and the remaining balance of \$400,000 will be expended in Fiscal Year 2017. There are sufficient appropriated funds in the Water Resources budget to cover the design contract costs.

Construction projects developed through this design contract will be brought to the City Council either as capital improvement projects, or to the General Services Manager as maintenance and repair projects based on the nature and scope of the project.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACTS

Replacing aged water distribution infrastructure is essential to managing a water utility and reducing water main breaks, which can lead to hundreds of thousands of gallons of water wasted.

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SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office