



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 19, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Conceptual Design Contract For The Lower Arroyo Burro Restoration Project

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Waterways Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$56,300 to prepare conceptual design plans for the Lower Arroyo Burro Restoration Project; and
- B. Authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to approve expenditures of up to \$5,600 for extra services from Waterways Consulting Inc. that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

Project Description

The Lower Arroyo Burro Restoration Project (Project) is planned for a 14.74 acre City-owned property, located at the north end of Alan Road. The site is currently degraded but includes environmentally sensitive habitat with approximately 1,800 linear feet of creek frontage and is an important scenic view corridor from Las Positas Road. The Project goals are to improve wildlife habitat, water quality, aesthetics, and flood control.

The conceptual design contract will include surveying, hydrological modeling analysis, hydraulic modeling, engineering, construction costs estimates, and analysis of FEMA flood zone mapping.

Some of the initial ideas for site restoration include removal of obsolete erosion control structures, removal of invasive non-native plants, re-grading the creek channel, installing in-stream rock structures, and re-vegetation with native plants and trees.

A restored creek channel will improve wildlife access, food supplies, and shelter. Water quality will also be improved through increased shading, aeration, and bio-filtration.

Consultant Selection

In April 2016, a request for proposals was distributed to 12 engineering and design firms experienced with creek restoration in California. Waterways Consulting, Inc. was the only firm to submit a proposal and has been selected to develop the conceptual restoration plans. Waterways staff has extensive experience designing restoration projects in urban areas and has designed over ten major creek restoration projects within California, including two projects locally on Carpinteria and Gobernador Creek.

Timeline

With Council approval of the contract, the concept design phase will begin in August 2016. Final concept design plans will be delivered in February 2017. The timeline includes a public meeting with the Creeks Advisory Committee and focused outreach to stakeholders including permitting agencies and the adjacent neighborhood. Input from the various stakeholders will be incorporated into the final concept design plans prior to initiating environmental analysis and permitting. Grant applications will be submitted during 2017 to obtain additional project funding, and project permitting and approvals will be completed. Final design plans and construction bidding will be completed in late 2017/early 2018 with project construction estimated to occur during the summer of 2018.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The cost to prepare the concept design plans is \$56,300. A ten percent change order of \$5,600 is also included to cover any cost increases that may result from necessary changes to the scope of work. With contingency funds, the total cost for the Waterways Consulting, Inc. contract is \$61,900. Funds for this project are included in the Creeks Fiscal Year 2017 Capital Improvement Fund.

A copy of the contract is available for public review in the City Clerk's Office.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The purpose of the Project is to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in Arroyo Burro. These efforts will contribute to local, regional, and federal objectives of improving water quality and riparian habitat.

PREPARED BY: George Johnson, Creeks Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office