Agenda Item No. 7

File Code No. 540.13

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 27, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement For Development Of El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan And Long Term Capital Improvement Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City Professional Services contract with Brown and Caldwell in the amount of $354,299 for engineering services for development of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan and Long Term Capital Improvement Program, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to $35,429 for extra services of Brown and Caldwell that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero) provides wastewater treatment for the City of Santa Barbara and serves a population of approximately 95,000. It is a secondary treatment facility permitted for 11 million gallons per day (MGD), but currently processes approximately 6 MGD due to extraordinary water conservation efforts by the Santa Barbara community.

El Estero is an ocean discharge facility with a portion of its flow treated to Title 22 standards and reused within the community as recycled water. It was initially constructed in 1952; however, a majority of El Estero's current infrastructure was constructed in 1978. The plant includes preliminary, primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment, disinfection facilities, and solids handling unit processes.

In the past years, capital improvements have been made consistently, including recent, significant system improvements to the headworks; influent pumps; tertiary treatment; and the secondary process (currently under construction). In addition, a conceptual plan has been developed to improve the biosolids process. However, there is still a

substantial amount of work that needs to be done to replace El Estero's aging electrical and mechanical equipment and structures.

The El Estero Facility Plan will develop a "road map" for capital improvements needed over the next 25 years, with a list of prioritized projects, planning level cost estimates, and tentative schedules; however, the main focus will be on developing more detailed schedules and cost estimates for the next 10 years. This "road map" is needed to ensure that capital funds are properly allocated, and to confirm planned rate increases are adequate per the 10-year financial plan.

The primary objectives of the Facility Plan are to:

- Evaluate current plant facility conditions for the capability to reliably meet existing and potential future discharge requirements;
- Develop a prioritized 10-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that phases projects based on criticality and customer rate impacts;
- Examine and recommend sustainable elements and strategies which can be incorporated into the proposed CIP;
- Have a peer review of the Biosolids Project Conceptual Plan; and
- Consider the City's interest to continue to expand recycled water usage (direct potable reuse, indirect potable reuse, and non-potable reuse) and how this might impact future wastewater treatment processes and operations.

Brown and Caldwell was selected through a Request For Proposal process as the most qualified firm to perform this work. Recommendations from the Facility Plan will be used to identify and prioritize future capital improvement projects and confirm that planned rate increases are adequate, per the 10-year financial plan.

This item was presented to the City's Water Commission at its September 15, 2016 meeting. The Water Commissioners voted 5-0-0 in favor of staff's recommendation.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

This project was anticipated, and there are adequate appropriated funds in the Wastewater Capital Fund for this professional engineering work.

PREPARED BY: Lisa Arroyo, Wastewater System Manager/mh

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office