



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** October 23, 2007

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Professional Services Contract To Produce A Technical Guidance Manual For Post-Construction Storm Water Management

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to execute a professional services agreement with Geosyntec Consultants in the amount of \$75,798 to prepare a Technical Guidance Manual for Post-Construction Storm Water Management.

### DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this project is to produce a Technical Guidance Manual (Manual) for the design and implementation of best management practices (BMPs) for post-construction storm water controls. The production of the Manual will be administered by the Creeks Restoration and Water Quality Improvement Division (Creeks Division) of the Parks and Recreation Department. The primary purpose of the Manual will be to guide City land development staff, design engineers, architects, contractors, and residents to design and implement proper post construction storm water management and treatment methods. The Manual will serve as a design requirement for public and private development and redevelopment projects required to comply with state and federal water quality laws and assist with implementation of the City's Storm Water Management Program (SWMP).

### Background

The City of Santa Barbara approved its revised SWMP in 2006. The SWMP defines strategies and guidelines for the protection of water quality and reduction of pollutant discharges to the maximum extent practicable.

A key SWMP strategy is the development and implementation of design standards for post-construction storm water management BMPs. The Manual's design standards will address the main pollutants of concern in Santa Barbara, which are defined in the SWMP as: indicator bacteria, nutrients, hydrocarbons, sediments, and pesticides.

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REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney

Agenda Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

The Planning Commission Standard Conditions of Approval require development and redevelopment projects to incorporate water quality best management practices into their designs in order to implement the City's General Plan policies. However, the City does not currently have any detailed design guidelines for containment and treatment control measures, as they apply to specific projects and site constraints. The local design community (engineers and architects) and developers often request guidance and information on how to design for and treat storm water runoff from their project site in order to comply with the City's SWMP and state water quality regulations.

Controlling urban runoff pollution from new development after construction is critical for the protection of creek and ocean water quality. The goal of the Manual will be to minimize runoff pollution typically caused by land development by employing a sensible combination of pollutant source control and site-specific treatment control measures.

#### Consultant Selection

In August 2007, a request for proposals was distributed to 17 engineering and design firms located throughout California. Three consulting firms submitted proposals. City staff, including representatives from the Creeks Division, Public Works, and Planning, interviewed all 3 firms. After careful review, staff recommends Geosyntec Consulting Services for several reasons. Geosyntec is an engineering design firm with a local consulting office in Santa Barbara that specializes in the environmental sciences and is known for innovative work in both storm water and surface water management, permitting and monitoring. The local Geosyntec staff has assisted many public agencies and municipalities with the production of Technical Guidance Manuals and documents, including several for the design and implementation of BMPs for storm water. Furthermore, Geosyntec assembled a team for the project with nationally recognized and local sub consultant experts, including the Low Impact Development (LID) Center, Penfield and Smith, and David R. Black and Associates.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the Technical Guidance Manual will take eight months to complete. The scope of work for the project includes public workshops and public meetings with the Creeks Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission.

#### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The cost of the consultant contract is \$75,798. Funds for this project are budgeted in the Creeks Division Fiscal Year 2008 operating budget.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

Controlling urban runoff pollution from new development after construction is critical for both the protection of water quality in the City and for success of the SWMP. The goal of the Manual is to minimize runoff pollution typically caused by land development and improve water quality in the creeks and ocean.

**PREPARED BY:** Autumn Malanca, Water Resources Specialist

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office