



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. 560.04

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: August 5, 2008
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Airport Department
SUBJECT: Professional Services Contract For Airport Native Plant Nursery

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Airport Director to execute a contract with URS Corporation (URS), in an amount not to exceed \$136,777 for services associated with the Native Plant Nursery, and authorize the Airport Director to approve expenditures up to \$13,678 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

In early 2008 the Airport completed the construction phase of the Airfield Safety Projects, which involved the relocation of the main runway, taxiway construction, and the relocation of two creeks. A Coastal Development Permit was issued for this project that required approximately 30 acres of habitat restoration to be maintained to permit criteria for seven years.

In order to meet these permit criteria, a Native Plant Nursery was constructed by URS Corporation and Growing Solutions Restoration Education Institute under a previous contract. Seeds collected from the Goleta Slough were grown in the Nursery until they were fit for planting. Currently in the second year of the seven-year maintenance period, the Airport needs to continue the operation of the Nursery to provide replacement plantings for plants that fail in the first years of restoration. These replacement plantings are necessary to ensure permit criteria satisfaction and the sustained ecological health of the habitat restoration areas.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for this contract are available in the Airport Federal Aviation Administration Grant Fund.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

This contract will further the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program by providing the Santa Barbara Airport with native replacement plants and seeds for its various habitat restoration projects in the Goleta Slough and associated creeks. This resource would otherwise be purchased and transported from off-site in order to satisfy Coastal Development Permit criteria.

PREPARED BY: Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office