



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 30, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facilities Division, Waterfront Department

SUBJECT: West Beach Dredging Project

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Appropriate \$175,000 out of the Waterfront Department's Harbor Preservation Fund unappropriated reserves for the West Beach maintenance dredging project; and
- B. Authorize the General Services Manager to issue a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$175,000 to AIS Construction Company to dredge approximately 20,000 cubic yards of sand off West Beach.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Waterfront Department periodically dredges West Beach to improve boating for small craft within the protected waters of the harbor breakwater. The Waterfront Department Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2011 includes \$350,000 for West Beach dredging. A portion of West Beach was recently dredged as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded County Parks Department project, which moved sand to Goleta Beach. By "piggy-backing" on the recent County dredge project, the Waterfront Department can potentially reduce capital expenditures by utilizing the existing equipment and current dredge company to perform this work now rather than next year. The most significant savings involves eliminating the mobilization project costs and utilizing existing contract unit prices. Staff believes the West Beach dredging project can be completed in this fiscal year for approximately \$175,000 by the dredge operator currently under contract with the Corps of Engineers. This will reduce the Waterfront Department Capital Improvement Project costs by almost half of the expected \$350,000 budgeted for Fiscal Year 2011.

DISCUSSION:

West Beach is highly used by beachgoers, but also provides a large water area sheltered by the harbor breakwater for small craft associated with youth sailing programs, kayakers, and outriggers canoes. Annual dredging by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) is limited to the designated Federal Navigation Channel. Areas outside the Federal Channel such as West Beach accumulate sand creating shallow water and restricting use by small craft. The Waterfront Department conducted dredging operations of West Beach in 2003 to enlarge the safe boating area for small craft as part of the Harbor Master Plan implementation. This improvement benefited Sea Shells, a youth sailing program, and other ocean dependent organizations, which boat or recreate within the sheltered waters. Since 2003, additional shoaling has occurred once again restricting use by small craft off West Beach. The Waterfront Department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2010 through 2015 includes a West Beach Dredging Project for \$350,000 in Fiscal Year 2011.

The County Parks Department received \$1.6 million from FEMA for a beach nourishment project at the highly eroded Goleta Beach County Park. Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of sand was recently moved from West Beach by trucks and scows to Goleta Beach creating a restored beach at no cost to the Waterfront Department. This project partially completed the dredging proposed for Fiscal Year 2011.

The Corps has contracted with AIS Construction Company (AIS) for dredging the Federal Channel in Santa Barbara Harbor. The Corps entered a three-year contract with AIS that concludes in April 2010. While the dredge contractor is still mobilized and operating in Santa Barbara Harbor, the Waterfront Department can contract separately with AIS upon completion of the Corps dredging in order to complete the West Beach dredging project.

AIS has offered to remove an additional 20,000 cubic yards of sand off West Beach for a unit price of \$7.00/cubic yard complementing the recently completed County Parks project. Removal of an additional 20,000 cubic yards of sand will preclude the need to conduct additional dredging in Fiscal Year 2011 as currently included in the Waterfront Department's 2010 – 2015 CIP. The unit price of \$7.00/cubic yard is based on the low bid for the most recent competitively bid dredging project in our region at Morro Bay which is very similar to the proposed dredging at West Beach. Municipal Code Section 4.52.140, Cooperative Purchasing, allows the General Services Manager to issue a purchase order to a contractor where the City purchases equipment, supplies, or services at the same price as a contract awarded by another local, state, or federal government following a competitive bidding process that substantially conforms to the City's purchasing procedures. The total cost of approximately \$175,000 to dredge an estimated 20,000 cubic yards of sand from West Beach is very competitive since the contractor is already on site and there will be no mobilization costs. The project has the potential to save approximately \$175,000 in the Waterfront Department's CIP in Fiscal Year 2011.

BUDGET INFORMATION:

The proposed project is included in the Waterfront Department's 2010-2015 CIP in the amount of \$350,000 for Fiscal Year 2011. These funds would normally be appropriated from the Harbor Preservation Fund reserves during the budget approval process for those CIP projects scheduled for construction in that year. There are adequate funds in the Harbor Preservation Fund reserves to appropriate \$175,000 for use in the current fiscal year for this project.

PREPARED BY: Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

SUBMITTED BY: John Bridley, Waterfront Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office