



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 7, 2011

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of Emergency Purchase Orders For Response To Milpas Roundabout Sewer Main Break

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the General Services Manager to approve after-the-fact Emergency Purchase Orders to:

- A. Tierra Contracting, Inc. (Tierra), for assisting City staff with emergency response services to prepare the site and install a temporary bypass pumping system at the Milpas Roundabout, in an amount not to exceed \$24,000;
- B. Rain For Rent for providing rental and delivery of a temporary bypass pumping system at the Milpas Roundabout, in an amount not to exceed \$23,668.90; and
- C. Southland Water Technologies for delivery and installation of a wireless level sensing alarm and a one-year service contract, in an amount not to exceed \$2,654.50.

DISCUSSION:

On March 31, 2011, Wastewater Collection staff was notified that a Caltrans contractor, working on Highway 101, had inadvertently hit a 12-inch diameter sewer main that runs beneath the highway at the Milpas Roundabout while conducting pile-driving work. The resulting break closed Milpas Street and the Milpas Roundabout while Wastewater Collection staff, along with Tierra, worked to contain the sewage and install an emergency temporary sewer by-pass with materials and equipment supplied by the vendor, Rain for Rent.

These vendors were selected because they were the only providers in the immediate area who had the necessary equipment and the ability to respond to this emergency situation. Each of these vendors has a proven record with the City of being able to respond quickly and effectively to similar types of emergencies.

The nature and location of the broken sewer main created additional complications that made it difficult to determine the most effective way to make a permanent repair to the

12-inch sewer line. Until a permanent repair can be made, the temporary sewer bypass system must remain in place. At this time, it is estimated that it will take three to four months to design and complete the final repair project.

The purchase order to Southland Technologies is for the installation and maintenance of a level sensing alarm placed up stream of the emergency pump. If the pump should fail, rising water levels upstream of the pump will trigger an alarm, alerting staff who can respond to prevent a sewer spill.

The Purchasing Code allows staff to bypass the formal bidding processes for selecting a contractor and executing contracts in emergency situations, such as this. The Code also requires that staff bring the contracts to Council for after-the-fact approval as soon as practical.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds from the Wastewater Fund capital budget were used to cover these emergency expenses. Staff will seek reimbursement from Caltrans for all expenses related to this break.

PREPARED BY: Christopher Toth, Wastewater System Manager/avb

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office