



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** September 9, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Engineering Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Contract For Final Design Of El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Process Improvements Project – Phase 1

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City Professional Services contract with Brown and Caldwell in the amount of \$581,436 for Final Design of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Process Improvements Project – Phase 1, and authorize the Public Works Director to approve expenditures of up to \$29,072 for extra services of Brown and Caldwell that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero) processes approximately 8 million gallons of wastewater each day. El Estero was originally constructed in 1952; however, a majority of its current infrastructure was constructed in 1978 to meet 1972 Clean Water Act requirements.

Although subsequent capital improvements have been completed in past years, El Estero has longstanding issues with highly variable secondary effluent quality, operational inflexibility, energy inefficiency, and secondary treatment capacity. On June 29, 2010, Council awarded a contract to Brown and Caldwell (B&C) to prepare an Assessment Report to evaluate and develop recommendations to improve the secondary treatment process at El Estero. B&C, working with staff, evaluated several operational alternatives for improving the secondary treatment process, which resulted in staff's recommendation to pursue the Final Design of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Process Improvements Project – Phase 1 (Project).

On October 11, 2011, Council awarded a contract with B&C to prepare a Preliminary Design Report (PDR) for the Project, and subsequently awarded a contract for a second phase PDR on January 15, 2013. Combined, these two PDRs form the basis for the final design.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The final design work consists of modifications to El Estero's secondary treatment processes to a nitrification/denitrification system, upgrades to the existing aeration and secondary clarifier sludge withdrawal systems, and implementation of nitrate return to address odor and clarifier performance issues.

#### FUNDING

The City has submitted an application for a \$20 million State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan to finance design and construction of this Project. Staff initiated the SRF financing application process in 2012 and anticipates having an executed agreement with the State of California within the next few months. Staff recommends approval of the Final Design Phase I contract now since City funds are available to do so. Staff will return to Council to seek approval of the Final Design Phase II Contract after the SRF funding agreement has been executed later this year.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with B&C in the amount of \$581,436 for the Final Design Phase I Contract, and \$29,072 for potential extra services, for a total amount of \$610,508.

B&C was selected as the most qualified firm through a competitive Request for Proposal process. Staff reviewed the costs and the scope of work for the final design phase 1 contract work proposed by B&C and determined that both are appropriate for the size and complexity of the Project.

The following summarizes all estimated total Project costs:

#### ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

Assessment Report (by Contract)	\$267,820
Project Administration (by Staff)	\$40,646
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$308,466</b>
Preliminary Design Report Phase 1 (by Contract)	\$398,886
Preliminary Design Report Phase 2 (by Contract)	\$285,136
Project Administration (by Staff)	\$63,471

Environmental Review and Permitting	\$36,194
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$783,687</b>
Final Design Phase I (by Contract)	\$610,508
Final Design Phase II (by Contract)	\$1,021,413
Project Administration (by Staff)	\$104,060
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,735,981</b>
Estimated Construction Contract w/Change Order Allowance	\$17,600,000
Estimated Construction Management/Inspection (by Contract)	\$1,600,000
Estimated Construction Support Services (by Contract)	\$640,000
Estimated Project Administration (by Staff)	\$161,550
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$20,001,550</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>	<b>\$22,829,684</b>

There are sufficient funds in the Wastewater Capital Fund to cover the Professional Services final design Phase 1 contract work.

This item was presented to the City’s Water Commission at its meeting on August 11, 2014. The Water Commissioners voted 5-0-0 in favor of staff’s recommendation.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

These processes will improve water quality for both recycled water production and treated effluent discharge into the ocean. They will also provide more energy efficient equipment at El Estero as the blowers, the number one energy demand for El Estero, will be updated to a more energy efficient model.

**PREPARED BY:** Lisa Arroyo, Supervising Civil Engineer/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

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