



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 14, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of Purchase Order For Emergency Sewer Main Repair

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council retroactively approve \$28,727 in a Purchase Order to Tierra Contracting Company (Tierra) for emergency sewer main repair.

DISCUSSION:

On Wednesday, February 25, 2009, a contractor working at the Fess Parker Waterfront Hotel development broke a 24-inch city sewer trunk line. This particular trunk line services a large portion of the Eastside and is a main artery into the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero). This line is also approximately 18 feet deep, which is below the water level; and therefore, very difficult to repair. The incident created a major operational emergency requiring immediate response and vital repairs.

El Estero crews worked throughout the day and night in order to establish a "pump around" for the sewage, proper shoring, and to create a dewatering system that could keep up with the groundwater. Soil conditions caused the collapse of an adjacent storm drain facility. The major concern was not sewage overflow, but the infiltration of mud and water into the wastewater system. As such, the difficult repair conditions required immediate emergency repair by a highly experienced contractor with specialized equipment and staff to perform the work.

Tierra was hired on an emergency basis to make the required repairs. The emergency repairs and all of the clean up tasks were completed by Friday, February 27, 2009.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The Wastewater Fund Facilities Maintenance budget has sufficient funding to cover the cost of this emergency repair work. Staff will seek reimbursement from the Contractor and/or Owner of the property for the cost of the Purchase Order and City crew time.

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APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office