



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** November 10, 2009

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works

**SUBJECT:** Approval Of Emergency Purchase Order And Approval Of Sole Source Vendor For Repairs To Equipment At El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Retroactively approve emergency Purchase Order No. 382921 in the amount of \$64,148 to JWC Environmental for parts and labor needed to repair existing rag and trash removal equipment at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero); and
- B. Approve JWC Environmental as the sole source vendor for future parts and repair of Wastewater influent screening equipment.

**DISCUSSION:**

The rag and trash removal equipment that is currently in place at El Estero has deteriorated to a point where one of the two units is no longer operational, and the other is showing severe wear and is at risk of failure. Failure to remove rags at the headworks will result in problems throughout the entire plant, including in the digesters.

The failed equipment on one of the influent channels prohibits the use of that channel. Consequently, during high flows when we would normally be operating both units, some of the flow must be sent through the center bypass channel. If both channels fail, we will be forced to use the center bypass channel at all times - reducing the influent capacity to the plant. This could cause backups in the collection system during periods of rainfall. As a result, staff issued an emergency purchase order to JWC Environmental to repair the existing rag and trash removal equipment.

The equipment used for removing rags and trash at the headworks of El Estero is manufactured by JWC Environmental and they are the only supplier of the parts for repair. We are currently in design to install a completely new system for rag removal at El Estero, but the earliest the new installation could occur is in 2011, and the estimated cost for the project is \$4 million. Staff anticipates that other repairs may be necessary to keep this equipment in service until it can be replaced. Because JWC is the only

supplier able to provide the appropriate parts, we are seeking to have them designated as a sole source vendor for this equipment should additional equipment or repairs be required.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The cost of repair for the two units is \$64,148. It is anticipated that these repairs will allow continued operation of the equipment through the winter; however, additional repairs may be required prior to the replacement of the equipment. There are sufficient funds in the Wastewater Fund budget to cover this cost.

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager/LC/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

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