



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 17, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Rental Agreement For The Gibraltar Dam Caretaker Residence

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Water Resources Manager to execute a Caretaker Rental Agreement for the Gibraltar Reservoir and Dam residence with Frank Dealy, through the term of his employment as the Dam Caretaker for this location.

DISCUSSION:

Gibraltar Reservoir and Dam, a concrete arch dam positioned on the Santa Ynez River, is owned by the City of Santa Barbara. The Dam is situated in a remote location deep within the Los Padres National Forest at 1,400' above sea level. With an average yield of approximately 4,600 acre-feet per year, the Gibraltar Reservoir is the second largest single source of water for the City. Water from the Dam is delivered through the Santa Ynez Mountains via Mission Tunnel to Lauro Reservoir for treatment at the City's Cater Water Treatment Plant.

Historically, the Dam Caretaker has been required to live in the City-owned residence at Gibraltar Reservoir and Dam. Daily operation and maintenance of the Reservoir and Dam, along with site security, warrant having someone reside on site.

Frank Dealy was recently promoted to the position of Dam Caretaker. He has been an employee of the Water Resources Department since 1997, and has been working at the Gibraltar Reservoir and Dam since 1999. Over the past ten years, Mr. Dealy has gained both knowledge and expertise in the operation, maintenance, reporting requirements, and related duties associated with operating the Reservoir and Dam.

The Department recommends approval of a rental agreement with Mr. Dealy, effective upon signing, through the term of his employment as the City's Dam Caretaker for Gibraltar Reservoir and Dam. The proposed rental agreement has been shared with Service Employees International Local 620 representatives.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

No rent will be received as revenue, as tenant services are performed in lieu of rent. The remote location and difficulty of access to this valuable water resource underscores the intrinsic value provided by continuing the tradition of having the Dam Caretaker reside on site.

PREPARED BY: Catherine Taylor, Water System Manager/CT/sj

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office