

Agenda Report

August 16, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PSOMAS FOR PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING SERVICES FOR SAN RAFAEL TREATMENT WETLANDS AND STORM WATER CAPTURE PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$218,000

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the project proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines in accordance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment;
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract, as the result of a competitive selection process, as specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Psomas for the Preparation of Environmental Documentation and Environmental Permitting Services for the San Rafael Treatment Wetlands and Storm Water Capture Project in an amount not to exceed \$218,000, which includes the base contract amount of \$174,819 and a contingency of \$43,181 to provide for additional services as deemed necessary. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) (contracts for professional or unique services).

BACKGROUND:

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) requires the City to take steps necessary to reduce or eliminate pollution in stormwater runoff. In addition, the City is part of a group of 18 agencies who participate in the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) Enhanced Watershed Management Program which addresses NPDES compliance issues

as a watershed region rather than as independent municipalities. Water in the Arroyo Seco/Upper Los Angeles River regularly exceeds the Total Maximum Daily Load for bacteria and other pollutants set by the RWQCB. In order to achieve compliance for regulated pollutants, the ULAR Watershed agencies adopted a Load Reduction Strategy (LRS) which is a roadmap to compliance for the region as a whole. The LRS identified the San Rafael Creek outfall at its confluence with the Arroyo Seco channel as a significant source of bacteria from dry weather flows and requires this discharge be diverted from the Arroyo Seco, or otherwise eliminated by September 2023.

In November 2018, Proposition 68, State of California Parks and Water Bond Act of 2018, was passed by the voters for the development and enhancement of state and local parks and recreational facilities. The City of Pasadena (Pasadena) and the City of South Pasadena (South Pasadena) were jointly approved to receive a combined multi-jurisdictional total of \$3.5 million for the grant specified intent of Arroyo Seco Water Reuse and Natural Stream Restoration.

Pasadena and South Pasadena have agreed to a mutually beneficial project constructing man-made wetlands and related infrastructure diverting dry weather flows from San Rafael Creek at its confluence with the Arroyo Seco to be passively treated, stored, and reused. In addition, downstream of the outfall in the channel, restoration of an existing diversion structure and natural wetlands adjacent to Arroyo Park, will provide treated stormwater for irrigation to the park and Arroyo Seco Golf Course, opportunities for new habitat, and improve public access and use.

South Pasadena and Pasadena entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which was adopted by both South Pasadena and Pasadena City Councils on August 19, 2020 and October 5, 2020, respectively. Under the terms of the MOU, Pasadena will serve as the lead agency for the project. As such, City staff will coordinate with the granting agency and manage the design and construction of the project.

A preliminary design and feasibility study was performed and a conceptual design was developed providing the basic design components. The concept plan (Attachment B) proposes the basic design framework for development of the environmental documentation and determination of the required regulatory permits.

The scope of services under this contract consist of: 1) Assistance in the development of the project description to serve as the basis for the environmental analysis; 2) Preparation of a project level environmental document for the implementation of the Arroyo Seco project; and, 3) Assistance with acquiring all necessary regulatory permits for the project.

The Department of Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on May 4, 2021 to solicit professional services for the preparation of environmental documentation and environmental permitting services. The City received six proposals on June 3, 2021 in response to the RFP.

Below is a list of proposers:

Firm	City	Average Score
Aspen Environmental Group	Agoura Hills, CA	84
CSG Consultants, Inc.	Orange, CA	42
Infrastructure Engineers	City of Industry, CA	42
Meridian Consultants	Thousand Oaks, CA	65
Michael Baker International	Los Angeles, CA	88
Psomas	Pasadena, CA	95

The proposals were evaluated, scored, and ranked based on the evaluation procedures and criteria set forth in the RFP. Attachment A contains a summary of the evaluation scoring.

Based on the evaluation of the proposals, staff is recommending this contract award to Psomas. Psomas operates an office in Pasadena and is headquartered in Culver City, California. This firm has over 42 years of professional experience providing services in surveying, engineering, environmental and construction management for numerous public agencies. Psomas currently has contracts with the Department of Public Works (On-Call Construction Management and On-Call Project Management) and Pasadena Department of Water and Power with estimated aggregate expenditures of \$1,864,719.

Based on qualifications and scoring, it is recommended the City enter into a contract with Psomas for an amount not to exceed \$218,000.

The proposed contract will be structured as follows:

Environmental Document and Permitting Services	\$174,819
Contingency Allowance	<u>\$43,181</u>
Contract "Not to Exceed" Amount	\$218,000

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This project is consistent with the City Council's strategic goals to improve, maintain, and enhance public facilities and infrastructure, and support and promote the quality of life.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA in accordance with California Administrative Code Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

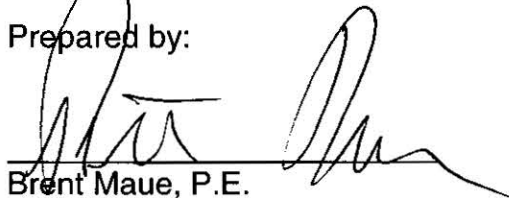
The total cost of this contract is \$218,000 and the total cost of this action will be \$270,000, accounting for staff time and administration of the contract. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of the existing budgeted appropriations in the *San Rafael Treatment Wetlands and Storm Water Capture (76291) CIP* project.

Respectfully submitted,



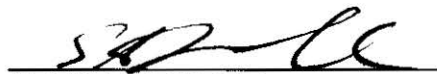
KRIS MARKARIAN, P.E.
Acting Director of Public Works

Prepared by:



Brent Maue, P.E.
Assistant City Engineer

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager

Attachment A - Consultant Scoring and Ranking
Attachment B - Project Concept Plan