


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: March 1, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with CWE for water quality monitoring services for the Milton Green Street Project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a professional services contract with CWE for water quality monitoring services for the Milton Green Street Project in an amount not to exceed \$18,653.

Background The Milton Green Street Project (Project) is located directly adjacent to the recently completed Ballona Creek Milton Park and is entirely within the City of Los Angeles' public right-of-way. The improvements are green infrastructure elements that include new sidewalk for public safety on south side, ADA curb ramps, signs and striping, and Vegetated Stormwater Curb Extensions (VSCEs) located on both sides of Milton Street. The VSCEs will be planted with climate-appropriate trees and shrubs and will capture, treat and infiltrate wet and dry weather runoff. VSCEs will remove various pollutants including trash, oil, and grease from the water before they can enter Ballona Creek, thereby benefitting both the Creek and local beaches. Only a few examples of VSCEs have been successfully constructed in Los Angeles, including MRCA's Dallas Street improvements complementing the Elysian Valley Bike Path project.

The Project is funded through several sources, including grants from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, County Proposition A, and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). A requirement of the SWRCB grant is a Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MRP) that will characterize the performance of the improvements in addressing various pollutants. In 2013, MRCA contracted with CWE to develop a comprehensive strategy for the sampling and monitoring of Project's captured stormwater within the VSCEs. Now that construction of the improvements is imminent, a consultant is needed to implement the MRP. These services include

taking water samples, analysis, and preparation of a technical letter summarizing results.

Based on MRCA's review of CWE's proposal and past experience with the firm, staff recommends using CWE for water quality monitoring services. CWE is a certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), as well as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE). CWE submitted a proposal in the amount of \$16,957 for water quality monitoring services. Staff recommends that the Board approve 10% more than the proposal amount to allow for contingencies and additional required services that are not known at this time.

Consideration: The proposed action would authorize a professional services contract to CWE for water quality monitoring services in an amount not to exceed \$18,653.

Fiscal Impact: The contract will be funded by the existing SWRCB grant, and was included in both the adopted fiscal year 16-17 budget and the grant budget. Staff time to manage the contract also funded by that grant. There will be a slight impact on the general fund because indirect costs on MRCA staff are not eligible for reimbursement by SWRCB, however this will be the case regardless of which company is selected. CWE will be reimbursed for their services, and is expected to complete work in fiscal year 17-18. Maintenance of the project improvements is the responsibility of the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Sanitation, and no ongoing expenses will result from the subject contract.