



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 2, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with DCA Drilling and Construction Inc. for water well establishment services for the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a contract with DCA Drilling and Construction Inc. for water well establishment services for the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County in an amount not to exceed \$55,825.

Background: The Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon was acquired in 2014 and spans 703-acres of openspace in the Santa Monica Mountains. Portions of the property were previously cleared and graded for agricultural use and residential development prior to the adoption of the California Coastal Act. MRCA is currently researching options for public access improvements for the property. Reliable sources of water for fire protection will be required for any improvements. Depending on the nature of improvements, a potable system for domestic water, irrigation water for fuel modification zones, and/or wastewater treatment may also be required.

The property's water supply resources were investigated as part of an Infrastructure Feasibility Study completed in 2017. The property has an existing, functioning water well, but it is unregistered and does not meet current requirements for acceptable well construction. Specifically, the annular seal does not extend deep enough, and the casing exhibits several deficiencies. Pump tests were conducted to determine if groundwater was a feasible source, but the results—while positive—must be considered inconclusive since the existing well cannot meet standards. Furthermore, requirements for drinking water filtration and separation of potable and non-potable systems cannot be determined, or costed, without knowing what the groundwater supply is. A new, compliant well is needed to plan a feasible water supply system for management of the property.

In early February 2018, staff publically advertised the project to solicit bids from qualified contractors to provide water well establishment services at the Puerco Canyon site. On February 23, 2018, bids were obtained from three (3) qualified contractors.

Section 3.2(c) of the MRCA's Purchasing and Contracting Procedures states that all construction and improvement contracts in excess of \$25,000 must be approved by the Governing Board. Staff reviewed the bids and references and determined DCA Drilling and Construction Inc. (DCA) to be the lowest responsive, responsible bidder in accordance with Public Contract Code section 20815 *et seq.* DCA Drilling and Construction, Inc.'s bid is attached.

Consideration: DCA Drilling and Construction Inc.'s bid is exceed \$50,750. Well drilling is by nature inexact, and therefore staff recommends adding a contingency factor of 10% for a total not to exceed contract amount of \$55,825.

Fiscal Impact: Funding for the contract comes from an existing grant for capital improvements for the project, and will have no impact on the general fund. This expense was anticipated in both the fiscal year 17/18 budget and the project budget. Staff time to manage the contract is also funded by existing project grants. DCA will be paid on a progress basis, and payments may extend into fiscal year 18/19.