



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Public Works



Date: April 22, 2013
Board Meeting Date: May 7, 2013
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: 4/5ths

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

Subject: Ramona Road Emergency Declaration and Execution of a Contract with Soil Engineering Construction

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution:

- A) Finding that a local emergency exists along Ramona Road; and
- B) Authorizing execution of a contract with Soil Engineering Construction, Inc. for the design and construction of improvements along Ramona Road.

BACKGROUND:

Ongoing erosion of the slope embankment adjacent to a segment of Ramona Road in the community of Los Trancos has resulted in a complete loss of the roadway shoulder adjacent to a segment of road approximately 80 feet in length.

The site has been reviewed by multiple geotechnical engineers, including the County's geotechnical engineer, and there is a general consensus that it is imperative that slope stabilization be performed prior to the winter rains of 2013-14 in order to adequately protect against the possible failure of some portion of the road.

DISCUSSION:

Ramona Road is the primary access into the Los Trancos community. Alternative routes are very narrow and limited in width to the point where vehicles heading in opposite directions are often unable to proceed simultaneously. Absent the declaration of an emergency by your Board – allowing the avoidance of the delay caused by a competitive solicitation for bids – the Department of Public Works does not believe that the preferred solution, a retaining wall, can be constructed before the next rainy season. The Department of Public Works has contacted Soil Engineering Construction, Inc. (SEC), because of their unique ability to prepare construction repair plans and construct the designed improvements. Taking advantage of this unique ability will allow for the

construction of an engineered soldier beam retaining wall prior to the 2013-14 rainy season. Selection of SEC as the final contractor is based on an informal process, considering knowledge of the work required, prices, mobilization time required to commence work, and estimated time to complete construction. Entering into a design/build-type contract with SEC without going out for public bid will allow for the construction of a soldier beam retaining wall, the preferred solution, to proceed in an expedited manner and help address the emergency at hand.

Public Contract Code sections 22035 and 22050 allow for emergency contracting procedures, which include awarding contracts without a formal bidding process upon a four-fifths vote of the Board.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the proposed Resolution as to form.

This resolution contributes to the shared vision 2025 of a Livable Communities by assuring that repairs which are necessary to provide continuous community access are performed in a timely manner.

FISCAL IMPACT:

SEC has submitted a bid of \$150,000 for the preparation of plans and for the construction of a soldier beam retaining wall, excluding permitting costs. Additional costs include a 10% construction contingency of \$15,000, inspection testing and contract administration fees. Your Board will be updated on actual project costs as the project progresses.

The work will be funded by the Road Fund. There is no impact to the General Fund.