



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Public Works



Date: April 4, 2016
Board Meeting Date: May 10, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

Subject: Amendment No. One to the Agreement with Environmental Science Associates - Alpine Road Trail Improvements Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Environmental Science Associates to prepare environmental documentation, provide permitting services, and construction support for the Alpine Road Trail Improvements Project, and increasing the amount by \$85,000, for a new total amount not to exceed \$385,000.

BACKGROUND:

The Alpine Road Trail (Trail) is a multi-use trail that extends from approximately Junipero Serra Boulevard, in the City of Menlo Park (City), to Portola Road, in the Town of Portola Valley (Town). Your Board approved funding for the Alpine Road Trail Improvements Project (Project) within the unincorporated County area during the FY 2012-13 Capital Improvement Budget hearing. The Project involves creek bank stabilization work at three locations along Los Trancos Creek (Creek), and rehabilitation of the existing Trail.

On October 23, 2012, your Board adopted Resolution No. 072230, which authorized an on-call agreement with Environmental Sciences Associates (ESA), along with several other firms, for professional services for the Department of Public Works (Department), in the amount of \$300,000. The on-call services provided in accordance with ESA's agreement consisted of environmental documentation and permitting services for several Department projects. ESA's role in this Project included the preparation and acquisition of permits from regulatory agencies.

At your January 28, 2014 Board of Supervisors' meeting the Department presented proposed creek bank stabilization measures for this Project as represented in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) environmental document. Your Board

heard comments regarding the Project from the public and Stanford University (Stanford). The Department was directed by your Board to meet with representatives from Stanford to evaluate alternate biotechnical methods for stabilizing the creek bank along Alpine Road, which included shifting the Creek away from Alpine Road onto Stanford property.

The Department reported back to your Board at the March 11, 2014 meeting regarding the discussions with Stanford. At that meeting your Board acted to postpone certifying the IS/MND and directed the Department to collaborate with Stanford to explore alternatives for two creek bank stabilization locations (Sites 2 and 3) that would incorporate more environmentally sensitive solutions, and be acceptable to the regulatory agencies and the public.

On January 27, 2015, your Board adopted Resolution No. 073619, which authorized a new Agreement with ESA to continue their work to prepare environmental documentation and provide permitting services for the Project in the amount of \$300,000. The services to be provided in accordance with the agreement included: review, revise and recirculate the IS/MND, and complete the permitting process and incorporation of regulatory comments into the final Project design.

On January 26, 2016, your Board adopted Resolution No. 074301, which certified the IS/MND for the Project and also completed the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirement for the Project.

DISCUSSION:

The Department recommends that your Board approve Amendment No. One to the Agreement to enable completion of the environmental documentation, permitting and provide for construction support services for the Project. The original estimated construction cost of the Project was \$1,710,000. Based on the current design and project requirements, this estimate has increased to \$2,509,000. It is anticipated that the duration of the construction work will be approximately six months.

Several issues have contributed to ESA's additional costs. Additional effort and resources were required to educate various regulatory staff about the Project, respond to requests for additional background information and analysis, and make adjustments to the permitting approach. The amendment also includes limited construction support services that were not included in the agreement. The estimated cost to complete and obtain all the required permits and provide construction support services during construction is \$85,000.

The Department is continuing to work diligently to expedite any necessary requests for information and analysis received from the various regulatory agencies, which have jurisdiction on the Project and work to obtain the necessary environmental permits. At this time none of the required permits have been secured.

Amendment No. One increases the not-to-exceed amount of the agreement by \$85,000 in order for ESA to finalize the environmental documents, permitting services and to provide construction support services during the course of construction.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution and amendment as to form.

Approval of this action will contribute to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community by maintaining the existing recreational opportunities for the benefit of the public.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amendment No. One will increase the not-to-exceed amount of the agreement by \$85,000 to \$385,000. Sufficient General Funds are currently budgeted to finance this through June 30, 2016. The Project has \$2,729,000 allocated in the FY 2016-17 Capital Improvement Program, which is adequate based on the current Engineer's Estimate of \$2,509,000.