



# County of San Mateo

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

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**Department:** COUNTY MANAGER

**File #:** 19-860

Board Meeting Date: 9/17/2019

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**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Adam Ely, Director of the Project Development Unit  
**Subject:** Amendment to Agreement with SOHA Engineers

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the President of the Board to:

- A) Execute an amendment to agreement with SOHA Engineers, increasing the contract amount by \$100,000 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$199,000; and
- B) Execute contact amendments that modify the contract term and/or services so long as it does not cause the total cost of the services to exceed the current or revised fiscal provisions.

**BACKGROUND:**

In January 2017 the Project Development Unit (PDU) was formed to oversee and manage all ground up construction performed by the County of San Mateo. The management of the Regional Operations Center (ROC) included the responsibility to assure compliance with the project's atypically rigorous seismic requirements. The County's Building Department suggested that the structural peer reviews necessary to assure compliance be handled by a third-party structural engineer.

On May 10, 2017 the PDU entered into an agreement with SOHA Engineer's to perform the peer reviews. The number and intricacy of contractor submittals requiring review have substantially outnumbered the original estimates. SOHA Engineer's services will also be required on the other projects under PDU.

**DISCUSSION:**

SOHA Engineers has efficiently and promptly provided the structural peer reviews, necessary to support the PDU in fulfilling the ROC project's fundamental design mandate of remaining immediately operational after all but the most severe of seismic events. In many cases multiple iterations of the more involved designs were necessary. SOHA's technical review comments and experiential based design suggestions have been instrumental to maintaining progress throughout construction.

The original agreement was issued in the not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000. As the project progressed it became clear that there is a greater need for SOHA than originally anticipated. The agreement has been amended three times to a current not-to-exceed total of \$99,000. The work to date has exhausted the current maximum agreement limit, additional review is necessary to complete the ROC project as well as other PDU projects.

During the course of several of the County's recent construction projects, SOHA Engineers have proven to be an invaluable partner to PDU's success in understanding and managing each project's structural design. The trust they have fostered within the County Building Department staff and ability to straightforwardly assess and explain complex structural issues very directly and appreciably benefits PDU and the County.

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

Approval of this amendment contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of Collaborative Community by enhancing the accuracy, quality, and workmanship of the County's major construction projects.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no new Net County Cost associated with this amendment. All costs related to this Amendment are included in Project Budgets approved by this Board and appropriated in the FY 2019 -21 Recommended Budget.