



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-25-04
Meeting 25-01
January 8, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM

Reject All Bids for the Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project in La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Reject all bids received for the Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project in La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.
2. Authorize the General Manager to re-solicit bids.

SUMMARY

The purpose of the Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project (Project) is to provide construction services for the drilling of a water well for agricultural use in the Driscoll Ranch Conservation Grazing Unit of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve). The Project scope is to drill the well hole, install well casing, well screens, and a concrete pad at the well, and perform initial well development. Midpeninsula Regional Open District (District) staff issued a Request for Bids on October 30, 2024 and received two (2) bids on November 14, 2024. However, the low bid did not include the bid bonds and was therefore non-responsive. The high bid came in significantly higher than the low bid and 70% over the engineer's estimate. Since the lowest responsive and responsible bid is significantly higher than the engineer's estimate, the General Manager recommends rejecting all bids and re-soliciting the bids. Work is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2025 and the schedule will not be impacted by re-soliciting bids.

DISCUSSION

On October 30, 2024, staff issued a Request for Bids for the Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project. An optional pre-bid site tour was held on November 6, 2024 and attended by one (1) contractor. Two (2) contractors submitted bids by the bid opening deadline of 11:00 am on November 14, 2024. The apparent low bidder, Pitcher Services, LLC., submitted a bid of \$86,500. However, upon review of the bid materials, District staff determined that Pitcher Services did not include the required bid bonds, and their bid was therefore considered non-responsive. The second bid was received from Arsenal Well Drilling at \$118,995. The bid from Arsenal Well Drilling is 70% higher than the engineer's estimate of \$70,000 and 38% higher than the bid from Pitcher Services.

As a result, the General Manager recommends rejecting all bids and re-soliciting new bids. Public Resources Code section 5594 provides that the Board may reject all bids for any purpose

and re-advertise. Since the work cannot be completed until after the rainy season, there is no schedule impact to re-solicit the Project.

Solicitation Results

The District publicly opened the bids on November 14, 2024. The detailed breakdown of bids received is as follows.

Bidder	Location	Total Bid	Percent +/- from Engineers Estimate (\$70,000)
Pitcher Services, LLC	East Palo Alto, CA	\$86,500 (non-responsive)	+24%
Arsenal Well Drilling	Visalia, CA	\$118,995	+70%

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact related to the rejection of bids.

PRIOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE REVIEW

July 15, 2018: Board approval to update the Water Resources Section of the Resource Management Policies. The updated Policy directs staff to explore alternate water sources to replace existing stream diversions ([R-18-92](#), [meeting minutes](#)).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article 19, Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by the Board of Directors, the General Manager will reject bids and re-bid the Project, expecting to return to the Board with consideration of an award of contract in March 2025.

Attachment(s)

1. Well Location Area Map

Responsible Department Head:

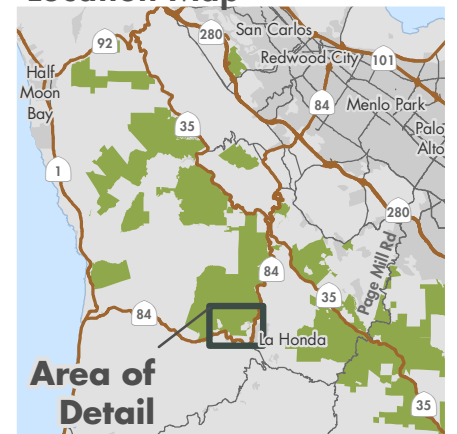
Jason Lin, Engineering and Construction Manager

Prepared by / Contact person:

Leigh Guggemos, Capital Project Manager III, Engineering and Construction Department














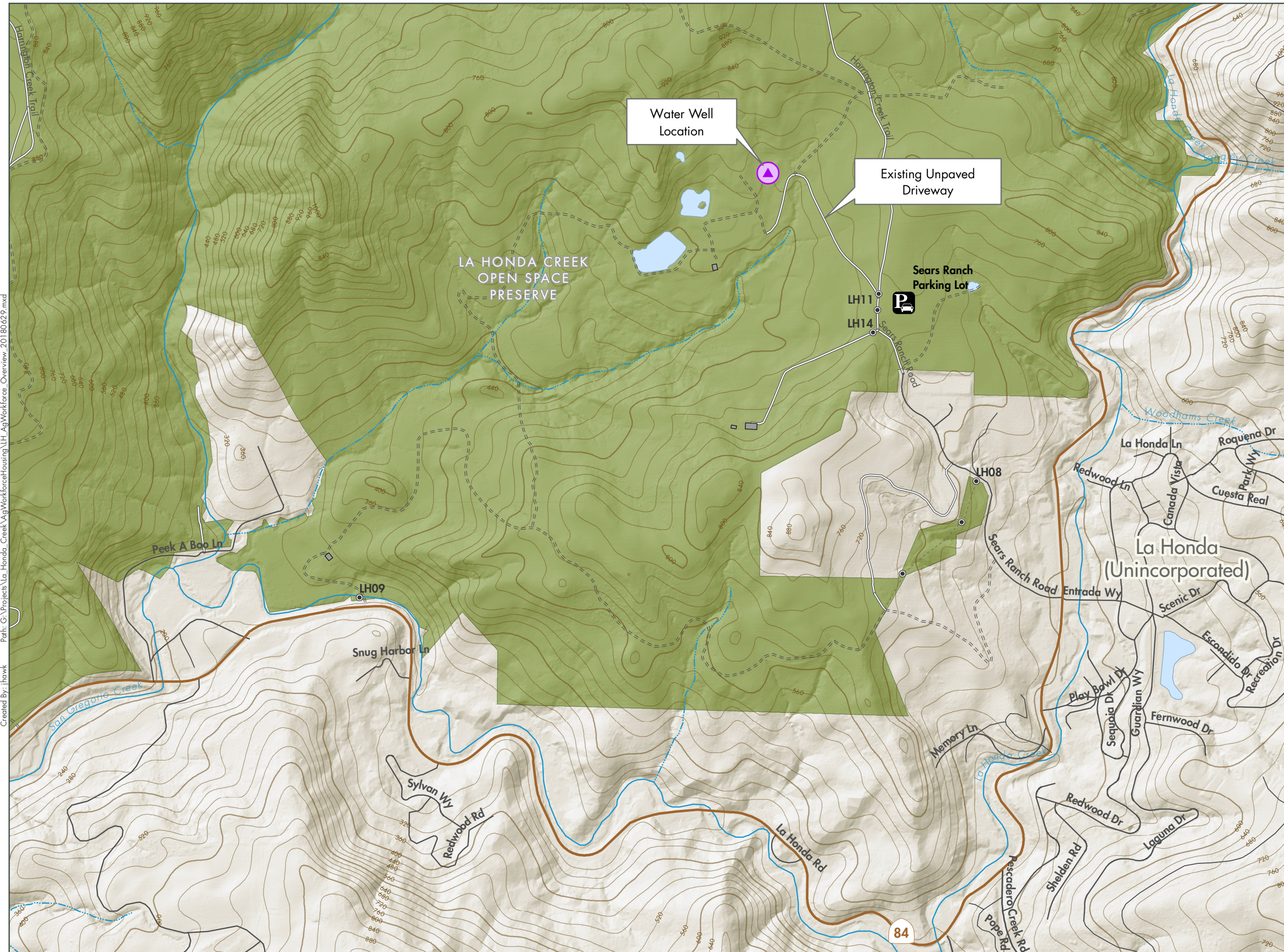
Location Map



Area of Detail

Project Location Map

-  MROSD Preserves
-  Private Property
-  Highway or Major Road
-  Minor Paved Road
-  Minor Unpaved Road
-  Unmaintained Road Width
-  Parking Lot
-  Gate (#)
-  200 ft Contour
-  40 ft Contour
-  Proposed Well



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Created By: jhowk

While the District strives to use the best available digital data, these data do not represent a legal survey and are merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.