



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

R-12-32  
Meeting 12-09  
March 14, 2012

## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

### **AGENDA ITEM**

Authorization to Amend a Contract with ARCADIS, Inc. (ARCADIS) for Engineering and Design Services for the El Corte de Madera Creek Parking/Staging Area and Trails Project

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

Amend the contract with ARCADIS for an additional amount of \$15,000, which includes \$8,820 in base fee and a contingency of \$6,180, to provide additional engineering and design services to address Caltrans input and San Mateo County Planning Commission conditions of project approval related to the proposed parking/staging area at El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve), for a total contract amount not to exceed \$159,000.

### **SUMMARY**

Over the last ten years, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) has worked to establish a formal parking area for the Preserve. The proposed project includes a staging area and four (4) phases of trail construction and site restoration. The staging area phase of the project has been in permit review with San Mateo County since June 2010. The San Mateo County Planning Commission held two hearings on the staging area project on May 25, 2011 and January 25, 2012. The Commission approved the project at its January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting with conditions of approval that require certain changes to the permit drawing set, thus requiring some additional engineering and design services to update these drawings.

### **DISCUSSION**

Permitting drawings for the staging area project were submitted to San Mateo County in June 2010. Because the project is located within a scenic corridor, Skyline Boulevard (also known as Highway 35), it was subject to San Mateo County Planning Commission review. The project had its first hearing before the Commission on May 25, 2011. In response to the Commission's direction at the meeting, the District undertook additional analysis to address issues raised by the Commissioners.

Per Commission direction to further evaluate potential safety issues and consult with Caltrans, District staff conducted an on-site visit with County and Caltrans staff on June 24, 2011 at the location of the proposed staging area and entrance driveway. As a result of this site visit, a principal issue discussed by County and Caltrans staff was the driveway entrance to the staging area. While on site, County and Caltrans staff reviewed site conditions and discussed the

potential for and the advantages of moving the proposed driveway 100 feet further south from its initially proposed location.

District staff submitted a conceptual drawing depicting the South Driveway entrance alternative to San Mateo County and Caltrans for their review. Caltrans responded with initial feedback on the conceptual design, and District staff assisted County staff in analyzing whether there were any potential environmental or safety effects of relocating the proposed driveway entrance 100 feet south. The Commission approved the project at its January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting with conditions of approval that require changes to the drawings currently in permitting, including moving the driveway entrance 100 feet to the south.

To implement the changes required per the County conditions of approval and Caltrans input, and complete the permitting phase of the project, staff requests an amendment to the ARCADIS contract. Moving the driveway requires some layout, grading and drainage changes to the permit drawing set to reflect the new design. These changes will reduce grading and tree removal.

Staff recommends amending the existing contract with ARCADIS for an additional amount of \$15,000, which includes \$8,820 in base fee and a contingency of \$6,180, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$159,000. Due to the length and uncertainty of the permitting process, which may delay construction to FY2013-14, staff strongly recommends a contingency of this magnitude to allow the District to expediently address any unanticipated tasks required during permitting.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The FY2011-12 and proposed FY2012-13 budgets contain funds to cover the costs associated with this work, including the engineering services necessary for bidding and construction.

#### **BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

No recent Board Committee activity to report.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice of this Agenda Item was provided per the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

#### **CEQA COMPLIANCE**

Staff concludes that amending the existing consultant agreement to provide additional design work does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

For CEQA compliance during project implementation, refer to reports R-10-35 and R-12-15.

**NEXT STEPS**

Upon approval by the Board of Directors, staff will continue with the permitting process, and assuming no further delays, proceed to bid out and construct the staging area this calendar year.

Prepared by:

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Contact person:

Same as above