

Lompoc City Council Agenda Item



City Council Meeting Date: December 16, 2014

TO: Patrick Wiemiller, City Administrator

FROM: Craig Dierling, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer
c_dierling@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Award of Project No. CS-08-S-2B, Engineering Design of the Santa Ynez River Bank Stabilization Project

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council:

- 1) Award the contract for the engineering design of the Santa Ynez River Bank Stabilization Project to Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec), in the amount of \$196,874;
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute the contract;
- 3) Authorize the City Engineer to execute contract amendments for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$30,000.00; and
- 4) Approve the amendments to the FY 2013-15 Budget as shown in Table 2 – Phase 1 Supplemental Appropriations and Supplemental Revenue Summary, in order to fund Phase 1 of the project.

Background:

Since 2008, the City has worked to address certain locations of concerning river bank erosion along the Santa Ynez River adjacent to the City, because such erosion threatens to wash away valuable land and improvements.

On February 1, 2011, the City Council received a project update and presentation from staff and the feasibility study consultant, Penfield & Smith (now Stantec), on recommended bank stabilization measures for the Santa Ynez River Bank Stabilization Project (Project). The Council directed staff to pursue grant funding to implement the recommended Reinforced Vegetative Bank Protection (RVBP) systems.

On September 20, 2011, the Council authorized submittal of grant applications for the Project to the California River Parkways Program and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. On June 5, 2012,

the Council authorized submittal of a grant application to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

On January 21, 2014, the Council received a Project update, approved reducing the scope of the Project in order to obtain grant funding, and approved submittal of a revised grant application to the FEMA HMGP. See Attachment, Project Location Map.

While the City's pursuit of funding from other grant programs has been unsuccessful, in September 2014, the City was awarded funding for Phase 1 of the Project through the FEMA HMGP. The City's FEMA HMGP grant covers up to 75% of the approved \$273,330 Phase 1 Project budget to fund the engineering design, environmental studies, environmental permitting, and preparation of plans, specifications, and cost estimates. Based on the City's grant application, FEMA made a preliminary determination of Project viability, cost effectiveness, and compliance in order to approve Phase 1 funding. Upon the City's submittal to FEMA of the documents which will be completed in Phase 1 of the Project, FEMA will determine whether the Project is technically feasible, cost-effective, and compliant with environmental and historic preservation requirements, and if so, will approve Phase 2 funding for up to 75% of the construction phase Project budget. While the FEMA HMGP grant provides for up to 75% of approved Project costs, the remaining 25%, and all contingencies and additional costs must be supplied from other non-federal sources. This applies to both phases of the Project.

Discussion:

The first major component in Phase 1 of the Project is performing engineering design to a level of completion sufficient to move forward with environmental studies. To begin that process, the City publicly advertised and solicited to a number of qualified firms a Request for Proposal to perform the engineering design and preparation of plans, specifications, and cost estimates. The City received one proposal, which was submitted by the consulting team who performed the feasibility study work, and which proposes highly experienced and specialized engineers who have previously designed five similar projects, four of which have been constructed on the Santa Ynez River. Staff attributes the lack of other competing proposals to the highly-specialized nature of the proposed engineering design, and the scarcity of engineers who are experienced with such work.

As discussed in previous staff reports, the innovative system proposed in the Project is to install approximately ten rows of vertical steel piles running from the river bank perpendicular into the river bed approximately 40', having the piles of each row connected by several strands of steel cable. Native Willows will be planted between the rows of piles, and the system will protect the plantings and catch debris to slow the river flow near the bank, thereby promoting the deposition of sediment to re-build the bank

rather than eroding it. All five of the above-mentioned systems designed by the City's project team are performing as intended, with minimal maintenance needs, and one has been in place on the Santa Ynez River for almost 30 years. The proposed system is not only more effective and longer-lasting than traditional bank protection methods like rock rip rap, it is also several times less expensive to construct. Additionally, the proposed system promotes vegetative establishment and improves wildlife habitat along the riverbank, making it more favorably viewed by environmental permitting agencies.

The second major component in Phase 1 of the Project is performing the necessary environmental studies in order to make the necessary determinations and obtain permits to construct the Project. To begin that process, the City plans soon to publicly advertise and solicit to a number of qualified firms a Request for Proposal to perform the necessary environmental studies. While the City does not anticipate the scope or cost of the proposed environmental studies to exceed the level requiring an approval of the contract by the City Council, the anticipated amounts for the work are shown in this report to give a complete picture of the Phase 1 work and budget for the Project. Phase 2 is anticipated to occur during the FY 2015-17 Budget cycle and can be budgeted along with other Public Works projects in the FY 2015-17 Budget.

Although the timelines and approvals of the various permitting agencies can vary significantly between projects, the City has estimated the engineering design and environmental review will be substantially complete in the fall of 2015, environmental permitting may be completed in late 2016, followed by FEMA's determination of Project compliance and allocation of Phase 2 funding. Assuming the above schedule, the Project should be constructed in the fall of 2017.

Fiscal Impact:

On June 5, 2012, when the Council authorized submittal of the initial grant application to the FEMA HMGP, the Council also approved the required 25% local matching fund commitment. The specific source of the required 25% local match was not specified by the Council at that time. The approved matching funds were intended to be appropriated from a variety of sources, including City road and utility funds if no other grant source had been secured for the required non-federal match to the FEMA HMGP grant. Road and utility funds were identified because the Project protects Riverside Drive, the Riverbend Park Multipurpose Trail, utility services to River Park, and City utilities to customers on Riverside Drive from damage resulting from the projected river bank erosion. Utility services provided to River Park were not specifically addressed in staff reports during the grant application period, but are more directly attributable to protecting park improvements.

The total of FEMA and City costs for Phase 1 of this project is estimated at \$329,998. The Funding Summary and Supplemental Appropriations and Supplemental Revenue

Summary tables below allocate 75% of the Phase 1 portions of the Stantec and environmental consulting contract values to be funded by the FEMA HMGP grant, and 25% of the Phase 1 portions of the contracts to be funded by City road, utility, and park improvement funds. However, as FEMA does not fund contingencies, those portions of the proposed budget are entirely funded by City road, utility, and park improvement funds. Additionally, included with the proposed allocations for the engineering design work is \$3,000 from the FEMA HMGP grant, and the necessary 25% City match for "Other Project Costs" such as preliminary title reports, recorded documents, and other similar expenses necessary for the engineering work. Finally, the proposed allocations for the environmental consulting include the balance of the FEMA HMGP Phase 1 grant, and the necessary 25% City match, to also fund various environmental and permitting costs, and associated City staff time needed to complete Phase 1.

A \$39,816 portion of the Stantec engineering contract is reserved for services during the bidding and construction portions of the Project, to be funded (up to 75%) with the anticipated Phase 2 allocation from FEMA. The City benefits in having the engineering consultants committed to those Phase 2 services now, but the City will not incur costs for such Phase 2 services until the City proceeds with Phase 2 work, after the anticipated Phase 2 funding allocation from FEMA. While Stantec's contract provides funding anticipated under Phase 2, there will not be any expenditure of funds under Phase 2 until the City receives confirmation from FEMA that the City can proceed to Phase 2. As such, those Phase 2 services are not included within the Phase 1 budget summary and allocations shown herein.

Similarly, a portion of the environmental review consulting contract will be reserved for services during the bidding and construction portions of the project, and funded (up to 75%) with the anticipated Phase 2 allocation from FEMA. The City likewise will not incur costs for those Phase 2 environmental services, until the City receives authorization from FEMA to proceed with Phase 2 work; therefore, such services are not included within the Phase 1 budget summary and allocations shown herein. After FEMA's allocation of Phase 2 funding, the City will be able to make the necessary budget adjustments to fund Phase 2 project costs for both the 75% grant and the 25% City match components.

Table 1 – Phase 1 Funding Summary:

Category	Project component	Amount
75% grant	FEMA HMGP Phase 1 funding	\$204,998.00
25% match	City sources	\$68,332.00
Contingencies	City sources (contingencies)	\$56,668.00
Phase 1 Total		\$329,998.00

Table 2 – Phase 1 Supplemental Appropriations and Supplemental Revenue Summary:

Account	Use	Total
40013-45286	FEMA HMGP Grant (revenue appropriations)	(\$204,998.00)
13045-77904	Professional Services – Engineering Design & Other Project Costs	\$120,793.50
13045-77904	Environmental Consulting, Permitting & Staff Costs	\$84,204.50
22-34099	Gas Tax – Fund Balance (Reserves)	(\$62,500.00)
22045-77904	Professional Services – Engineering Design & Other Project Costs	\$32,000.00
22045-77904	Environmental Consulting, Permitting & Staff Costs	\$30,500.00
51-34099	Water Utility – Fund Balance (Reserves)	(\$31,250.00)
51300-77904	Professional Services – Engineering Design & Other Project Costs	\$16,000.00
51300-77904	Environmental Consulting, Permitting & Staff Costs	\$15,250.00
24-34099	Park Improvement Impact Fees – Fund Balance (Reserves)	(\$31,250.00)
24510-77904	Professional Services – Engineering Design & Other Project Costs	\$16,000.00
24510-77904	Environmental Consulting, Permitting & Staff Costs	\$15,250.00
Net Appropriations	Appropriations from Reserves (Funds 22, 24, and 51)	\$125,000.00

Staff will continue to pursue grant funding to cover the portion of project costs not covered by the FEMA HMGP grant, in accordance with the Council's previous direction.

Conclusion:

In accordance with previous Council direction, and in order to utilize the FEMA HMGP grant received, staff recommends the Council award the contract to Stantec and approve the necessary supplemental budget appropriations in order to perform Phase 1 of the Project.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Dierling, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Kevin P. McCune, P.E., Public Works Director

Brad Wilkie, Management Services Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Patrick Wiemiller, City Administrator

Attachment: [Location Map](#)