

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

A. REGULAR SESSION: Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT: Directors Nathan Fletcher, Chair; Nora Vargas, Vice-Chair; Joel Anderson; Terra Lawson-Remer; Jim Desmond; also, Ryan Sharp, Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

(Members of the Flood Control District attended the meeting via teleconference and participated in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present, pursuant to Resolution No. 22-136, adopted September 13, 2022.)

B. Non-Agenda Public Communication: No Speakers

C. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting June 28, 2022.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Fletcher, seconded by Director Anderson, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Flood Control District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of June 28, 2022.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Agenda Items

- | Agenda # | Subject |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. | ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR ESTRELLA PARK WATER PROJECT
[FUNDING SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM (WPP); GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE; PRIOR YEARS WPP GENERAL FUND FUND BALANCE]
(4 VOTES)

(RELATES TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA NO. 04) |

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1. SUBJECT: ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR ESTRELLA PARK WATER PROJECT (DISTRICT: 4)

OVERVIEW

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has a green infrastructure capital program that implements projects that are designed to improve local water quality. Estrella Park Water Quality Project (Project) is one of the green infrastructure capital projects that consists of improving stormwater quality through the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), and infrastructure improvements within Estrella County Park in the community of Casa de Oro. The Project is located within upstream portions of the Sweetwater River Watershed, which drains to the lower lying areas of the Casa De Oro and Spring Valley communities in the unincorporated County. Runoff from Estrella Park ultimately drains to San Diego Bay. BMPs are temporary or permanent control measures or solutions, for controlling the quality and quantity of water that runs off the land, both during wet and dry weather. The improvements will serve as a pilot project through a partnership with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to efficiently combine water quality treatment benefits and park improvements, which include new walking trails, benches, a picnic area, drought-tolerant landscaping, a new parking lot, a staircase providing access to existing trails and amenities, and 400 linear feet of sidewalk to improve pedestrian access to the recently developed portions of the park.

This Project will include a trash capture device that will help DPW meet requirements associated with trash and water quality regulations. Federal and State laws require local governments to control pollution that enters waterways through streets, storm drains, gutters, ditches, and other conveyance systems that are collectively referred to as the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The County of San Diego (County) has a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board that governs various aspects of the County's MS4 system. This permit, which was last issued in 2013, is commonly referred to as the 2013 Permit. Among other requirements, the 2013 Permit established Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limitations for various pollutants that enter waterways.

TMDL is a regulatory term in the U.S. Clean Water Act, describing a plan for restoring impaired waters that identifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards. The TMDL limitations require the County to reduce the number and concentration of certain pollutants (such as bacteria and nutrients) that enter local waterbodies from the County's MS4 during both dry and wet weather conditions. In 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted regulations that require local agencies to control trash from entering local water bodies via the MS4; these requirements are known as the Trash Amendments. The purpose of these State regulations is to protect and enhance the quality of water bodies such as creeks, rivers, and the ocean that are designated for recreational, environmental, and other uses.

To address requirements of the 2013 Permit and the Trash Amendments, Project improvements would include the construction of two stormwater biofiltration basins to capture and treat stormwater, a storm drain system to direct stormwater toward the basins, site amenities such as landscaping including trees, shrubs, and permanent irrigation, walking trails, wood fencing along the tops of the basins, a staircase leading to the lower portion of the park, a parking lot with a parking stall that meets requirements of the Americans with

Disabilities Act and a picnic area. Bollard solar lighting is proposed at the perimeter of the parking lot. Improvements also include a new curb, gutter, and sidewalk along Estrella Drive and the park frontage, and three concrete driveways. An existing dirt access road used by park maintenance crews will also be re-graded as part of the improvements.

This Project will also incorporate drought-tolerant landscaping, including 24 trees, and a “smart” irrigation system, with automatic irrigation controllers that are designed to optimize water use and halt irrigation during a rain event. In addition, the Project will include an electric vehicle charging unit that will be procured and installed by the Department of General Services once the Department of Public Works has completed the construction of the water quality improvements. Once installed, this unit will contribute to the County’s sustainability goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

This is a request to transfer and establish appropriations and approve the advertisement and subsequent award of a construction contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Estrella Park Water Quality Project. If approved, construction is scheduled to begin in late fall 2022 and be completed in summer 2023. The total project cost including design, environmental review, and construction, including contingency, is estimated at \$5,069,200. The funding sources are DPW Watershed Protection Program (WPP), General Purpose Revenue (\$3,233,700), and the prior year’s WPP General Fund fund balance (\$1,835,500).

Today’s action also includes a delegation of authority to staff representing the County of San Diego and the San Diego County Flood Control District to negotiate a cost-share agreement whereby the County funds the long-term maintenance of the facilities, and the San Diego County Flood Control District performs maintenance activities.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Acting as the Flood Control District Board of Directors:

1. Establish appropriations of \$1,835,500 in Flood Control District, Services & Supplies, for construction of Estrella Park Water Project, based on an Operating Transfer in from DPW General Fund. **(4 VOTES)**
2. Delegate authority to the Director, Department of Public Works, or designee, as an agent of the District, acting on behalf of the Flood Control District, to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the County to provide for the maintenance of the Flood Control District facilities constructed pursuant to the contract.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Department of Public Works (DPW) strives to preserve, enhance, and promote quality of life and public safety through the responsible development and maintenance of reliable and sustainable infrastructure and services in the unincorporated area. To ensure that we are fairly and equitably serving all communities, while simultaneously complying with mandatory federal and State stormwater regulations, DPW utilizes a variety of tools to prioritize stormwater infrastructure improvement projects and to ensure that historically underserved populations are prioritized. The data used by DPW to evaluate and identify underserved

populations include data from the County's Healthy Places Index (HPI), San Diego LiveWell communities, as well as Environmental Justice Communities, CalEnviroScreen 4.0, and other data sources.

The area within which the proposed Estrella Park Water Quality Project (Project) is located has an HPI percentile rank of 59.1% that indicates 40.9% of other California census tracts have healthier community conditions. The area directly downstream of the Project area has an HPI percentile rank of 36.7% which indicates that 63.3% of other California census tracts have healthier community conditions than this tract.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Project aligns with the County of San Diego's (County's) sustainability goals of protecting and promoting natural resources, diverse habitats, and sensitive species, as it also enhances the natural environment for residents, visitors, and future generations to enjoy. Green infrastructure, such as this Project, helps to improve water quality by reducing the amount of pollution and trash conveyed within existing storm drains. The Project will help restore the local surface waters by improving habitat, and visual appeal and by providing more recreational opportunities. The Project is located within upstream portions of the Sweetwater River Watershed, which drains to the lower lying areas of the Casa De Oro and Spring Valley communities in the unincorporated County and ultimately to San Diego Bay. In addition to being located within an underserved community, and having a lower Healthy Places Index rating, these communities are especially affected by water quality impairments from high volumes of trash which can limit recreational opportunities by creating odors and visual blight. These conditions can also promote the establishment of invasive plant species.

In addition, the Project will include an electric vehicle charging unit that will be procured and installed by the Department of General Services once the Department of Public Works has completed the construction of the water quality improvements. Once installed, this unit will contribute to the County's sustainability goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Operational Plan in the Department of Public Works. If approved, the total project estimated cost for the Estrella Park Water Quality Project is \$5,069,200. The funding sources are the Department of Public Works, Watershed Protection Program (WPP), General Purpose Revenue (\$3,233,700), and the prior year's WPP General Fund fund balance (\$1,835,500). There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

County construction contracts are competitively and publicly bid and help stimulate the local economy by creating primarily construction-related employment opportunities. All workers employed on public works projects must be paid prevailing wages determined by the California Department of Industrial Relations, according to the type of work and location of the project. The prevailing wage rates are usually based on rates specified in collective bargaining agreements.

(RELATES TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA NO. 04)

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Fletcher, seconded by Director Vargas, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Flood Control District took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

There being no further business, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Flood Control District adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Directors of the
San Diego County Flood Control District

Notes: Perez

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the San Diego County Flood Control District on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.