

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: January 30, 2025

From: Public Works Department

Subject: Stockton Bridge Replacement Project Design Amendment

Recommended Action: Staff recommends the City Council approve an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with CSWST2 in the amount of \$715,000, for a total contract value of \$840,398, to complete all tasks outlined in the Scope of Work (SOW), excluding final engineering, for the Stockton Avenue Bridge Replacement Project.

Background: The Stockton Avenue Bridge Replacement Project aims to address significant flood risks and improve transportation resiliency in Capitola Village. The bridge, located in the lower Soquel Creek watershed, serves as a vital transportation link and emergency evacuation route for the Village. Heavy storm events have highlighted the bridge's vulnerability, particularly due to debris accumulation exacerbated by climate change.

On January 25, 2024, the City Council authorized a Professional Services Agreement with CSW/StuberStroeh Engineering Group, Inc. (CSWST2) in an amount not to exceed \$125,343 to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study to explore potential solutions to address debris accumulation on Stockton Avenue Bridge. CSWST2 completed the Stockton Avenue Bridge – Bridge Pier Debris Mitigation Feasibility Report (Attachment 1), which evaluated mitigation options including debris fins, deflectors, sweepers, and full bridge replacement. The feasibility report identified bridge replacement as the most effective long-term solution. On November 14, 2024 City Council directed staff to prioritize bridge replacement and begin advancing the bridge replacement project (attachment 2).

The amendment to the CSWST2 contract focuses on advancing the project through preliminary design, engineering and other key tasks leading up to final design, establishing the foundation for the next phases and enhancing its competitiveness for grant opportunities.

Discussion: The proposed amendment to the CSWST2 contract includes the completion of all tasks leading up to but excluding final engineering. These tasks define the project's scope, address permitting requirements, and advance the design to a point where environmental clearances and grant applications can be successfully pursued.

As part of the preliminary engineering phase, the project will include an assessment of the feasibility of maintaining or recreating significant architectural features of the existing bridge. This assessment will develop potential design options that balance historic character with modern engineering and flood resilience needs. Findings from this effort will help inform community engagement and design decisions moving forward.

Scope of Work: The amended scope includes the following:

1. **Preliminary Design and Engineering (35% Design):** Develop design concepts, including photometric analysis, stormwater management, and structural assessments. Prepare initial plans for grading, drainage, and utility relocations.
2. **Environmental Clearance:** Conduct environmental assessments per CEQA and NEPA standards, including hydrology, water quality, biological resources, and cultural impacts.
3. **Community Outreach:** Host public engagement activities, such as stakeholder meetings and on-site pop-up events, to gather input and address community concerns.
4. **Technical Documentation:** Prepare draft and final reports for bridge hydrology, foundation studies, and cost estimates to inform final design.

5. **Project Management and QA/QC:** Maintain project schedules, oversee design team activities, and conduct quality assurance reviews at key milestones.

Future Final Engineering Tasks: Upon securing additional funding, final engineering tasks will include:

- Preparation of 65%, 95%, and 100% PS&E packages.
- Final geotechnical analysis and structural design calculations.
- Completion of Caltrans-compliant construction documents and permitting applications.
- Detailed cost estimates and construction bid documents.

Staff continues to pursue funding for final engineering and construction. The fiscal impact of bridge replacement will be substantial, but funding opportunities exist through state and federal grants, including FEMA and infrastructure-related programs. Utilizing existing project funding to further develop bridge plans will make potential future applications for grant funding more competitive.

Fiscal Impact: On August 24, 2023, the Council accepted \$500,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) for the Stockton Bridge Debris Mitigation Project. The adopted FY 2022-23 budget allocated \$350,000 for the initial phase of the "Stockton Bridge Reinforcement Project," bringing total project funding to \$850,000.

Of the original \$125,398 contract awarded to CSWST2, approximately \$65,000 was utilized for the completion of the feasibility study. This leaves \$60,000 remaining under the current CSWST2 contract. The remaining project budget is \$785,000, of which \$715,000 is proposed to be added to the contract through this amendment. This would increase the total CSWST2 contract amount to \$840,398.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This action does not constitute a "project" pursuant to Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Attachments:

1. Link to November 14, 2024 Staff Report:
<https://mccmeetingspublic.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/capitolaca-meet-2d2b6cd9d0e64b618725faa084de1ff8/ITEM-Attachment-003-4e2a5be5f60842bb8dabb6f68d152527.pdf>
2. Bridge Pier Debris Mitigation Feasibility Report
3. Contract Amendment
4. Scope of Work

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