

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: January 25, 2023

From: Public Works Department

Subject: Stockton Bridge Debris Mitigation Project Design

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$125,343 to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study and create design documents for mitigating debris on Stockton Bridge in substantially similar form, as approved by the City Attorney, as the attached agreement.

Background: The Stockton Avenue Bridge, constructed in 1934, is a beam bridge with three openings and two support piers. It spans Soquel Creek and is the furthest downstream bridge of the Creek. Soquel Creek is prone to large woody debris, which historically causes flooding by blocking bridges. Unlike the upstream bridges at Soquel Drive and Highway 1, the Stockton Avenue Bridge has smaller spans, increasing the risk of debris accumulation and flooding.

Due to its vulnerability, the Stockton Avenue Bridge is identified as a critical at-risk facility in the City's 2013 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). In 2016, a due diligence memorandum was completed to assess the potential impact of debris flow on the bridge during a catastrophic flooding event. The memorandum recommended the installation of debris fins to guide debris through the larger center span of the bridge.

The development of a debris mitigation project for the Stockton Avenue Bridge involves conducting a feasibility study and detailed site study, including a hydraulic model, evaluation of alternative debris control measures, consideration of permits, infrastructure requirements, and cost analysis. The FY 2022-23 Budget allocated \$350,000 for the initial phase of the "Stockton Bridge Reinforcement Project." With support from State Senator John Laird, State Assembly Bill 102 was passed this summer, which allocated \$500,000 for this project.

Discussion: Staff issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a project engineer on December 5, 2023. The RFP was advertised on the City's website, on industry sites, and through direct solicitation of experienced firms in order to solicit qualified consultants. CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc. (CSW/ST2) submitted the only response by the January 11, 2024, deadline (Attachment 1). Staff interviewed the consultant and contacted their references. CSW/ST2 has successfully completed several similar projects along the coastal areas of California. CSW/ST2 is also the consultant completing the planning, permitting, and design services for the Cliff Drive Resiliency Project.

Fiscal Impact: On August 24, 2023, the City 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. Sufficient funds are available for approval of this Professional Services Agreement.

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

Attachments:

1. Project Proposal CSW/ST2
2. Draft Agreement

Report Prepared By: Jessica Kahn, Public Works Director

Reviewed By: Julia Gautho, City Clerk; Jim Malberg, Finance Director

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager