

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: September 28, 2023

From: Public Works Department

Subject: Noble Gulch Culvert Condition Assessment

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with V&A Consulting Engineers, Inc. for the Noble Gulch Culvert Condition Assessment in the amount of \$29,950.

Background: The Noble Gulch culvert is an approximate 500-yard underground structure that channels storm water, composed of concrete box culvert, reinforced concrete pipe, and corrugated metal pipe. In March 2011, the portion of pipe under the current Lower Beach and Village Parking Lot failed. Immediately after the pipe failure, the City completed permanent repairs to the failed section of pipe. The culvert was inspected by V&A Consulting Engineers, Inc. in 2011 and 2012. In 2013, the City completed the Noble Gulch Pipeline Repair Project to stabilize the remaining section of pipe.

Discussion: Re-evaluation of the Noble Gulch Culvert is necessary to determine if the condition of the culvert has degraded since the initial assessments performed in 2011 and 2012. Staff anticipates this work will be performed in October to December of 2023.

The scope of the project includes field assessment, conducted by a 5-person crew, to document pipe condition, measure deflections, conduct pipe sounding, and evaluation of the pipe condition using standard methods. Following the field assessment, a report will be prepared to summarize the assessment methods, findings, and conclusions. The report will include photographs, data tables, and graphical representations.

The City's Administrative Policy III-4: Purchasing and Procurement Policy allows sole source consultant services in cases where a consulting firm is a highly recognized authority in a field or specialty or has unique specific knowledge regarding the project. Staff recommends executing a Professional Services Agreement with V&A Consulting Engineers, Inc. as a sole source procurement. V&A Consulting Engineers, Inc. has extensive prior knowledge of the facility and completed similar assessments in 2011 and 2012.

In 2018 the City entered into an agreement with the County of Santa Cruz to jointly do an assessment of the Noble Gulch culvert to determine its overall condition and required maintenance.

Fiscal Impact: The adopted FY 2023-24 General Fund Budget has allocated \$50,000 for a Noble Gulch engineering feasibility analysis to assess the current condition and capacity of the Noble Gulch drainage system. Sufficient funds are available.

Attachments:

1. Draft Agreement
2. Sole Source Memo

Report Prepared By: Jessica Kahn, Public Works Director

Reviewed By: Julia Moss, City Clerk; Sam Zutler, City Attorney

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager