



TO: Fruita City Council and Mayor

FROM: Kimberly Bullen, Public Works Director

DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2023

AGENDA TEXT: BRIEFING ON NRCS PIFR AND DAM BREACH RFP - Briefing on NRCS Preliminary Investigative Feasibility Report and Summary of proposals received for engineering and construction services for dam breach at Fruita Reservoir #2

BACKGROUND

In April of 2022 the City of Fruita requested Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program planning assistance for a Watershed and Flood Protection Program (PL-566) project. This project was identified to protect the watershed and repair and enhance infrastructure at the city's Mountain Water properties including the repair of Fruita Reservoir #2 Dam to address dam safety issues that require it to be under a "No Fill" order by the Colorado Division of Water Resources. Other improvements included repairs to the Hay Press Diversion, piping of the Northeast Ditch and repairs to the Glade Park pipeline.

The city was awarded the grant to complete the Preliminary Investigative Feasibility Report (PIFR) and Jones & DeMille Engineering firm was selected by the NRCS to complete the PIFR for the East Creek Watershed. The work was completed in the spring of 2023 and the PIFR was finalized in October 2023.

The city was informed by email from the NRCS that the project will **not** be recommended for further planning as it did not meet all the requirements for the PL-566 program. A meeting is being scheduled to go over the findings in the report.

While waiting for the results of the PIFR, at the direction of City Council, Public Works staff prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Engineering and Construction Services for Dam Breach at Reservoir #2. The RFP was posted on September 15, 2023 with a closing date of September 29, 2023. Interested firms were required to sign the Vendor Acknowledgement form acknowledging the two addendums as identified in Exhibit A.

The city received five proposals. Two firms were disqualified from consideration for not signing Exhibit A acknowledging Addendum #2. Those firms were the Applegate Group and J-U-B Engineering. The remaining three firms, Roaring Fork Engineering, SHE, and SGM were reviewed and evaluated on submittal compliance, narrative, project specific approach and methodology, qualification of firm and experience of proposed staff, project understanding, pricing, and timeline.

If City Council decides to move forward with breaching Fruita Reservoir #2 Dam, staff recommends the project be awarded to SGM based on their experience, knowledge of permitting and development of

dam removal plans and a comprehensive understanding of the Colorado Dam Safety Rules & Regulations and USFS Special Use Permit requirements. SGM's proposal was the most comprehensive, showing they fully understand the project and necessary requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT

Public Works Director, Kimberly Bullen, Public Works Superintendent John Carrillo, and Dam Safety Engineer Jackie Blumberg reviewed the proposals. Below is the cost of each proposal submitted:

Roaring Fork Engineering - \$449,870
Applegate Group - \$24,700 (Disqualified)
SEH - \$145,841
J-U-B - \$28,000 (Disqualified)
SGM - \$164,710.70

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVE

The City of Fruita's primary goal is to provide necessary core services to residents and businesses within the city limits. As a municipal organization, the city is focused on aligning resources, time, and talent to provide high-quality services while impacting and increasing the quality of place, economic health, and lifestyle of the Fruita community.

The city has not been successful in finding grant funding to help with the cost of repairing Reservoir #2 dam. This reservoir is under a "no-fill" order from the State, since 2016, as the dam does not meet the State's dam safety standards. This reservoir has inadvertently filled twice since 2016 due to snow melt requiring staff to make daily trips to the reservoir to ensure the siphon is drawing water levels down, take readings, and make observations to report back to the State of Colorado Dam Safety Division. Evaluating and determining future steps with the City's mountain properties and water rights is detailed in the City's Strategic Plan.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL

This item is for information purposes and to obtain feedback and comments as it relates to proceeding with breaching Fruita Reservoir #2 dam.