



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 06/16/2026

ITEM NO: 11

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DATE: June 16, 2026  
TO: Mayor and Town Council  
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: **Authorize the Town Manager to Execute an Agreement for Professional Services with Sanbell for Engineering, Environmental, and Permitting Services for the Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project in the amount of \$128,923**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the Town Manager to execute an Agreement for Professional Services with Sanbell for engineering design, environmental technical studies, CEQA documentation, and multi-agency permitting support for the Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project (4628316; CIP No. 816-0418) in an amount of \$128,923.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is sufficient funding available to support this agreement through the carryforward of FY2025-26 appropriations into the Town's adopted FY2026-27 Capital Improvement Program Budget (4628316; CIP No. 816-0418).

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

This item does not directly support a Town's Strategic Priority, but does align with the Town's Core Goal of Quality Public Infrastructure as it will repair the failed storm drainage system between University Avenue and Vasona Lake.

**BACKGROUND:**

The FY 2026–2027 Capital Improvement Program includes funding for the Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project, which proposes replacement of an existing corrugated metal storm

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Special Projects Manager

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Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Administrative Services Director

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drain pipe that conveys runoff from University Avenue to an existing outfall into Vasona Lake. The existing pipe has reached the end of its service life and requires replacement to address deterioration and localized trench erosion. The storm drain discharges into Vasona Lake through an existing outfall structure on property owned by Valley Water, and work in this area will require coordination and permitting with Santa Clara County Parks and several regulatory agencies.

The Town retained Sanbell through its on-call consultant list after informal bids identified them as the best-value, most qualified firm to evaluate drainage concerns at the Vasona Oak and 709 University sites. Under a single agreement, Sanbell was contracted to support Town staff in conducting early field work and assisted during the Town's closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspection of the line, which confirmed significant deterioration and deficiencies that could not be addressed through routine maintenance.

In November 2025, the Town completed an emergency replacement of a failed culvert segment under University Avenue associated with the Vasona Oak storm drainage system. With the failed culvert replaced within the Town's right-of-way, the remaining project work focuses on replacing the downstream pipe segment and completing outfall improvements on Santa Clara County Parks and Santa Clara Valley Water (Valley Water) right-of-way.

#### DISCUSSION:

The Town originally combined design efforts for both the Vasona Oak and 709 University drainage systems because the projects initially appeared to involve a straightforward storm drain replacement with limited design. As the investigation advanced, each site was found to require its own scope, technical analyses, and timeline. Consequently, the original effort is now being bifurcated into separate projects.

A separate agreement is needed for the Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project to allow Sanbell to advance the next phases of engineering design, environmental review, and permitting. Sanbell has already completed initial survey work and early design evaluations for this project. The remaining work for the Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project now focuses on replacing the deteriorated downstream pipe segment within the County Park, stabilizing eroded trench material, and completing improvements to the existing outfall structure at Vasona Lake. This work requires expanded engineering design, environmental documentation, and multi-agency permitting support with Valley Water, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Sanbell's expanded scope includes data collection and reconnaissance, supplemental survey, refinement of design plans for pipeline replacement and headwall improvements, and preparation of technical studies and documentation necessary for CEQA and regulatory

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permitting. Upon completion of technical studies and environmental review, Sanbell will prepare 60%, 90%, and final bid-ready plans, specifications, and an engineer's estimate addressing pipe replacement, trench stabilization, surface restoration, and outfall improvements. Limited bid-phase support is included to provide assistance during project advertisement and respond to contractor inquiries.

Sanbell has been involved with the project since its inception and is familiar with the site conditions, previous design work, and the coordination required with outside agencies. Because Sanbell completed the initial investigation and early design development for this drainage system, continuing with them qualifies as a single-source selection under Section XV of the Town's Purchasing Policy, which permits the selection of a consultant when prior work provides a compelling reason to do so. Continuing with Sanbell will maintain project continuity and avoid any duplicative effort associated with bringing a new consultant up to speed. This will help the Town efficiently complete the next stages of design, environmental review, and permitting needed to advance the project toward construction.

CONCLUSION:

The additional engineering design, environmental documentation, and permitting services proposed by Sanbell are necessary to advance the Vasona Oak Drainage Failure Repair Project. Sanbell's prior involvement and familiarity with the project's site conditions and regulatory context provide continuity and efficiency in completing the remaining work. Staff recommend that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed agreement with Sanbell in the amount of \$128,923.

COORDINATION:

This report was coordinated with the Finance Department and the Town Attorney.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Awarding of the engineering agreement is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required. Environmental review for the underlying capital project will be completed as part of the design and permitting process. Preliminary evaluation indicates the project may qualify for a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities) and/or 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction); however, final CEQA determination will occur following completion of technical studies and environmental review.

Attachments:

1. Agreement for Professional Services with Sanbell for Vasona Oak Storm Drainage Repair Project
2. Original Sanbell Agreement for 709 University and Vasona Oak Projects