



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Board of Directors

Title: Award of Two Professional Services Agreements for Geotechnical Engineering, and Field and Laboratory Materials Testing Services

From: Alex Anaya, Director of Engineering

Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager

Meeting Date: July 21, 2026

TYPE OF ITEM: X Action Information

RECOMMENDATION: Approve award of two separate professional services agreements, MA 6587 with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and MA 6588 with RGH Consultants, for on-call “as-needed” geotechnical engineering and field and laboratory materials testing services, with a contract fee in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 for each contract, and authorize the General Manager to execute both contracts

SUMMARY: This item was reviewed by the District Planning Committee on June 30, 2026. The District solicits competitive proposals for as-needed geotechnical engineering services, and field and laboratory materials testing services related to soil, aggregate and asphalt density and composition testing and concrete compression testing, in support of the District’s capital improvement program and water main repairs. Materials testing is conducted on all capital pipeline replacement projects and operational leak repair projects to ensure that the compaction of trench backfill materials meets the District and local jurisdiction standards and specifications. This testing ensures that trench failures do not occur within the trench restoration area. Concrete testing is required on a variety of projects to ensure that concrete meets the District’s specifications for design strength and other characteristics. Additionally, construction work sometimes requires the services of a professional geotechnical engineer to evaluate field conditions, develop reports, and make recommendations. The District is proposing two on-call or “as needed” professional services agreements to ensure third-party availability for these geotechnical and materials testing support services.

DISCUSSION: The District currently utilizes two on-call geotechnical engineering services agreements with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and RGH Consultants. Each of the existing contracts include a not-to-exceed fee of \$500,000 and expired on June 30, 2026. One of the existing contracts is reaching its original contract fee limit of \$500,000. District staff have elected to solicit proposals and pursue two new multi-year on-call professional services agreements for geotechnical engineering and materials testing services, in lieu of amending existing contracts.

On June 12, 2026, the District conducted a competitive public solicitation for proposals for as-needed geotechnical engineering and materials testing services. Most of the work performed under the two proposed contracts consists of soil, aggregate, and asphalt compaction density testing. Other materials testing services include concrete compressive strength testing and various materials property testing such as sieve analyses and Atterberg limit tests. Geotechnical services performed under the proposed contracts primarily include geotechnical engineering support and materials testing services, but may also include design support, and site assessments and geotechnical report preparation.

On June 26, 2026, the District received and reviewed seven proposals, and propose to contract with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and RGH Consultants. Both firms demonstrated unique technical competency and qualifications with American Society of Testing Materials methodologies and American Concrete Institute special inspection procedures. Each proposal demonstrated extensive experience with geotechnical and structural observation and testing, as well as a full suite of geotechnical laboratory analyses. Both firms have also successfully worked with the District on multiple projects in recent years, providing project-specific geotechnical testing and engineering support services. Miller Pacific Engineering Group and RGH Consultants regularly perform geotechnical services throughout Marin County and can respond quickly to both emergency and non-emergency circumstances. Staff have reviewed rates for both proposals and have found they align closely as well as with past cost the District has paid for these services. A summary of key services included in the solicitation are identified in Table 1, below.

Table 1: Summary of key as-needed geotechnical and materials testing services for District projects

Services	Units
Professional geotechnical engineering	Per Hour
Geotechnical Engineering Investigations, Reports, and surveys	Per Request
Field Technician for soil, aggregate and asphalt (Prevailing Wage)	Per Hour
Compaction Testing ASTM D1557 4-inch mold (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve
Compaction Testing ASTM D1557 6-inch mold (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve
California Impact 216 (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve
Max Theoretical Specific Gravity (RICE) ASTM D2041 (asphalt)	Each
Extraction ASTM D6307 (asphalt)	Each
Concrete Compression Testing	Per Test
Soils Sieve Analyses, Atterberg Limits, Expansion Index, and Moisture Content/Density	Each

Each proposed contract will include a baseline contract period of 3 years, ending on June 30, 2029, unless otherwise extended by contract amendment. Each contract will also include a not-to-exceed fee of \$750,000, for a total proposed Board approval amount of \$1,500,000. Direct funding

encumbrances are not required for either contract, as work performed will be funded by specific project or operational fund centers previously included in the District's adopted budget. The contract budgets and implementations are summarized below.

Budget:

MA 6587 (MPEG) Amount:	\$750,000
MA 6588 (RGH) Amount:	\$750,000
Total Budget:	\$1,500,000
Budget Category:	Project-specific from Capital and Operational budgets

Contract Implementation:

Request for Proposals:	June 12, 2026
Deadline for Proposals:	June 26, 2026
Est. Contract Award:	July 21, 2026
Baseline Contract Duration:	thru June 30, 2029

Staff recommend that the Board approve award of two Professional Services Agreements, MA 6587 with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and MA 6588 with RGH Consultants, for on-call "as-needed" geotechnical engineering and field and laboratory materials testing services, with each contract in an amount not to exceed \$750,000, for a total Board-approved 3-year spending limit of \$1,500,000, and authorize the General Manager to execute both contracts.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not Applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total maximum expenditures under the two proposed contracts will not exceed \$1,500,000. Blanket Purchase Orders will be opened for the two contracts and funding will be provided on an as needed basis from identified Capital and Operations budgets.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Engineering	 Alex Anaya Engineering Director	 Ben Horenstein General Manager