



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Operations Committee/Board of Directors
Title: Review and Refer 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: August 16, 2024

AA
BH

TYPE OF ACTION: Action Information X Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Review and refer to a future regularly scheduled Board meeting the award of two professional services agreements with separate consultants for on-call “as-needed” geotechnical engineering and field and laboratory materials testing services, with each contract in an amount not to exceed \$500,000

SUMMARY: 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 improvement pipeline replacement projects and District operational leak repair projects to ensure that the compaction of trench backfill materials meets the District and local jurisdiction’s standards and specifications and to ensure that trench failures do not occur within the trench restoration area. Concrete testing is required on a variety of projects to ensure the concrete meets the District’s specifications for design strength. Additionally, work sometimes requires the services of a professional geotechnical engineer to evaluate field conditions and make recommendations. As the District’s CIP grows, staff identified an opportunity to ensure third-party availability for geotechnical and materials testing support services by pursuing two separate on-call or “as-needed” professional services agreements. At a future regularly scheduled Board meeting, District staff will make a recommendation to award two separate professional services agreements for these services.

DISCUSSION: The current two-year agreement with Miller Pacific Engineering Group in the amount of \$375,000 expired on June 30, 2023. In May of 2023, the District extended the contract until June 30, 2025, with no increase to the original contract amount. The existing contract is now reaching its original contract not-to-exceed limit of \$375,000. District staff have elected to solicit proposals and pursue new multi-year on-call professional services agreements for geotechnical engineering and materials testing services based on an anticipated increase in need for these services in the coming years.

On August 1, 2024, the District conducted a public competitive solicitation for proposals for as-needed geotechnical engineering, and soil, aggregate, asphalt and concrete materials testing services from Kleinfelder, Miller Pacific Engineering Group, and RGH Consultants. A summary of key services included in the solicitation are identified in Table 1, below.

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

Service	Unit Cost
Field Technician for soil, aggregate and asphalt	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
Marshall Testing ASTM D1559 (asphalt)	Each
Extraction ASTM D2172 Method B (asphalt)	Each
California Test Method 309 (asphalt)	Each
California Test Method 362 (asphalt)	Each
Professional Geotechnical Engineer	Per Hour
Field Technician for Concrete Testing	Per Hour
Concrete Compression Testing	Per Test

As the District’s Capital Improvement Program grows, so too has the District’s needs for third-party support services such as geotechnical engineering and materials testing, as well as the rate at which the District expends funds under these contracts. As such, staff proposes that the District enter into two separate professional services agreements, each with their own contract not-to-exceed limit of \$500,000. Services are performed under a time and expense basis, as needed, for the various capital and operational projects. Services primarily will include geotechnical engineering support and materials testing services, but may also include design support, and site assessment and geotechnical report services.

Each proposed contract will include a baseline contract period of approximately 2 years, ending on June 30, 2026, unless otherwise extended by contract amendment. Each contract will also include a not-to-exceed limit of \$500,000, for a total proposed Board award amount of \$1,000,000. 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 which utilize these services.

Budget:

Contract No. 1 Amount:	\$500,000
Contract No. 2 Amount:	\$500,000
Total Budget:	\$1,000,000
Budget Category:	Project-specific from Capital and Operational budgets

Contract Implementation:

Request for Proposals:	August 1, 2024
Proposals Received:	August 9, 2024
Est. Contract Award:	August 20, 2024
Baseline Contract Duration:	thru June 30, 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

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

ATTACHMENT(S): None.