



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: September 3, 2024

TYPE OF ACTION: X Action Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the General Manager to execute two professional services agreements with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and 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 \$500,000

SUMMARY: The District periodically solicits competitive proposals for as-needed geotechnical engineering services and field and laboratory materials testing services related to soil, aggregate and asphalt density, 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 District and local jurisdiction 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, these works sometimes require 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. Staff recommend that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute two professional services agreements, one with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and one 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 \$500,000.

DISCUSSION: 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. The District received two proposals from Miller Pacific Engineering Group and RGH Consultants. A summary of key services included in the solicitation with proposed consultant fees are identified in Table 1, below.

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

Service	Units	Miller Pacific Engineering Group	RGH Consultants
Professional Geotechnical Engineer	Per Hour	\$200 - \$290*	\$205 - \$250*
Field Technician for soil, aggregate and asphalt	Per Hour	\$130	\$140
Field Technician (Prevailing Wage)	Per Hour	\$170	\$180
Compaction Testing ASTM D1557 4-inch mold (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve	\$350	\$305
Compaction Testing ASTM D1557 6-inch mold (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve	\$400	\$360
California Impact 216 (soil/aggregate)	Per Curve	\$350	\$410
Marshall Testing ASTM D1559 (asphalt)	Each	\$750	\$420
Extraction ASTM D2172 Method B (asphalt)	Each	\$200	\$250
California Test Method 309 (asphalt)	Each	\$180	\$170
Concrete Compression Testing	Per Test	\$42	\$50
Dispatch Location		Novato, CA	Santa Rosa, CA

*rate ranges from Associate to Principal.

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 propose to 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 various capital and operational projects. The majority of the work performed under the two proposed contracts consists of soil, aggregate, and asphalt compaction and 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 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 fee of \$500,000, for a total proposed Board approval 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. Contract budget and implementation is summarized below.

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

Miller Pacific Engineering Group has successfully worked with the District on multiple projects in recent years, providing project specific geotechnical testing and engineering support services. RGH Consultants demonstrated technical competency, experience, and availability in their proposal. Both Miller Pacific Engineering Group and RGH Consultants regularly perform these services throughout Marin County.

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute two professional services agreements with Miller Pacific Engineering Group and 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 \$500,000.

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.

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