

# Staff Report

for the Engineering Committee Meeting of May 12, 2020

**TO:** Engineering Committee

**FROM:** Doug Roderick, PE, Engineering Manager  
Tonia M. Tabucchi Herrera, PE, Senior Engineer

**DATE:** May 6, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Hemphill Diversion Structure Project (FATR #7032) CEQA  
Services Consulting Contract

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***ENGINEERING***

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Advance a recommendation to the Board of Directors to award a consulting contract to ECORP Consulting, Inc. for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) services for the Hemphill Diversion Structure Project (FATR #7032) in the amount of \$299,493, approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$100,000, and to authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Hemphill Diversion Structure is identified as a fish barrier to anadromous fish migration within Auburn Ravine. The Hemphill Diversion is a concrete structure with wingwalls into the banks of the ravine. During the irrigation season, the District sets removable “stop” boards along the diversion structure to divert District imported water from Auburn Ravine into the Hemphill Canal. Current irrigation delivery during peak summer demand for the Hemphill Canal is 12 cubic feet per second (cfs). The master plan flow for this canal is 18 cfs.

The District has completed various studies for the Hemphill Diversion Project that include: an alternative analysis to improve fish passage at the Hemphill Diversion Structure location; geotechnical field studies and a hydraulic analysis; baseline water quality analysis; and two seasons of salmon and steelhead studies above and below the diversion structure. These reports are available on the project website.

Ongoing work includes a sediment transport study to see the effects of the diversion removal on Auburn Ravine. Once finalized, this report will be made

available on the project website. This report will satisfy a task in the Prop 1 Watershed Restoration Grant as well as provide data for the CEQA analysis.

During the development of the project, the District had contracted with Helix to complete a CEQA analysis based on the removal of the Hemphill Diversion structure and replacement with an infiltration gallery as the proposed project. The contract was executed in 2018 for \$228,000. To date, a total of \$68,151 has been invoiced and paid on the Helix contract for the CEQA analysis. An additional task in for \$20,000 was issued for support during the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings. The TAC had been formed to engage with trustee agencies and other parties as part of the Prop 1 Watershed Restoration Grant funding.

Helix conducted environmental field and desktop analyses around the diversion structure area April 24, June 4, September 7, and November 13, 2018. This work has valuable information, but due to the field survey dates, they may need to be updated depending on the existing conditions.

As the project moved forward with the TAC, the District's objective was modified to limit activities within this section of Auburn Ravine. This resulted in the identification of an alternative to serving existing customers on the Hemphill canal. This alternative is a new raw water pipeline that would be supplied from the District's Auburn Ravine I canal, which diverts water from Auburn Ravine approximately 5.9 miles upstream of the Hemphill Diversion. As part of the project, the existing Hemphill Diversion structure within Auburn Ravine will be removed.

The development of the project alternatives led to an increase in the scope and parameters of the project. Initially, Staff reached out to Helix regarding the potential alternatives. Given the increased scope and the potential of additional change orders, Staff felt it necessary to re-quote the CEQA analysis and subsequently issued a request for proposal (RFP).

The RFP for a CEQA evaluation for the removal of the diversion structure and project alternatives was sent to eight (8) qualified consultants on March 26, 2020. The District received six (6) proposals with one (1) formally declining and one (1) teaming with another proposer.

The District's rankings are based on described qualifications provided in the RFP. Each criterion has a percentage value-weighted against the ranking to evaluate the proposals. Proposals were reviewed by five (5) Staff members independently, without knowledge of the proposed costs. The costs were then added to determine the final ranking, and the results were discussed as a team.

Below are the proposers and their associated rankings. The first column are the cumulative scores without the cost of the analysis, and the second are the cumulative scores with the costs included. In both instances, ECORP ranked highest.

	Ranking score without cost	Ranking score with cost
Cardno/JNA	13.30	14.70
ECORP	13.53	15.28
GHD	8.68	10.43
HDR	12.35	13.05
Helix	11.98	13.73
Kleinschmidt	10.10	11.15

Below are the proposers and their associated costs. Optional costs were not included in the above-ranking score. Optional costs are services outside the proposed scope or outlined of project need in the RFP, suggested by the consultant. For example, additional field surveys and administrative records were indicated as optional costs.

	Base cost	Optional cost	Total cost
Cardno/JNA	\$ 348,273	\$ 15,913	\$ 364,186
ECORP	\$ 299,493	\$ -	\$ 299,493
GHD	\$ 290,315	\$ -	\$ 290,315
HDR	\$ 555,169	\$ 10,770	\$ 565,939
Helix	\$ 289,407	\$ 27,908	\$ 317,315
Kleinschmidt	\$ 385,179	\$ 77,142	\$ 462,321

Part of the requirements of the RFP included having the draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) out for public review by April 1, 2021. This date is important as it's a condition of the settlement agreement with Water Audit California.

Based on ECORP's proposal content and past standing with the District, it is Staff's recommendation that ECORP be awarded the consulting contract in the amount of \$299,493.02.

This item is in alignment with Goal Numbers 1 and 4 by ensuring the resilient and sustainable operation of our systems to benefit our customers, our community and the environment, and the integration of proven practices and technologies to enhance efficiency and reliability.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

This project is part of the Non-programmatic budget (10151-52915). The 2020 budget for this project is \$100,000. The existing unused encumbrance for the Helix contract that was rolled over to the 2020 budget is \$159,848, making the total available \$259,848. Due to COVID-19, there has been no new activity regarding AB52 consultation or consultant work for the Centennial Water Supply Project

(10151-52915-7013). Therefore, staff is requesting moving \$100,000 within the Non-Programmatic budget from the Centennial project to this project, which will require a budget amendment.

Expenses to date, which began in 2014, including the amount spent for the Helix contract, and other consultant services and Staff time are \$755,347. As stated earlier, these expenses were for various studies and work related to the TAC.

TMTH/DR