



MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: Andrew Garcia, Senior Civil Engineer

DATE: September 12, 2019

RE: Authorize Execution of Consultant Agreement for Preparation of Stormwater Resources Plan and Expenditure of up to \$106,000 from the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Activity Agreement Budget

BACKGROUND

SLDMWA, as the regional water management group (**RWMG**) for the Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management (**IRWM**) Region, is responsible for updating the IRWM plan for the Region, coordinating disadvantaged community involvement, preparing relevant grant applications, administration of grants, assisting with implementation of Regional projects or programs under the IRWM plan, coordinating the preceding activities among entities and programs in the region, and managing and achieving objectives stated in the SLDMWA Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Activity Agreement (**Activity Agreement**). In March 2019, the SLDMWA Board of Directors approved the Activity Agreement, which involves 11 agencies in total, nine of which are SLDMWA members.

Since 2002, various bond acts approved by California voters have provided over \$1.5 billion in State funding to support and advance integrated, multi-benefit regional projects. The Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region spans two separate Funding Areas: the San Joaquin River funding area and the Tulare Lake funding area. Currently, a group of agencies in both funding areas are working with SLDMWA and its consultant(s) to prepare multiple IRWM implementation grant application packages. Feedback from the California Department of Water Resources is that certain projects identified in these applications may require a Stormwater Resources Plan (SWRP).

Senate Bill 985 (Wat. Code, § 10563(c)(1)) requires the development of a SWRP to qualify for available funding for stormwater and dry weather runoff capture projects through any voter-approved bonds after January 2014. The Region does not currently have a SWRP prepared, and therefore is at risk of missing available funding opportunities to support the Region.

In mid-August 2019, SLDMWA released a request for proposal (**RFP**) to three consultants seeking support in developing a SWRP. Two of the three consultants (Woodard & Curran and Provost &

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Pritchard Consulting Group) partnered to submit the sole response to the RFP. The proposal outlines the experience of the identified team members between the two companies, which details the members' extensive knowledge of water management programs throughout the region and specifically with SLDMWA member agencies, as well as experience with SWRPs in the area.

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the Board should authorize execution of a consultant agreement for preparation of a SWRP for the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region and expenditure of up to \$106,000 from the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Activity Agreement budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize execution of a consultant agreement for preparation of a SWRP for the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region and expenditure of up to \$106,000 from the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Activity Agreement budget.

ANALYSIS / IMPLICATIONS

Execution of a consultant agreement and expenditure of Activity Agreement budget funds will ensure that a compliant and successful SWRP is developed for the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region by early 2020. This SWRP will allow the Region and any of its overlying stakeholders to qualify for current IRWM implementation grant funding opportunities and future grant funding opportunities related to stormwater or floodwater capture. Additionally, developing and adopting a SWRP will ensure that agencies beyond those within the Activity Agreement are able to benefit from the state requirement of a SWRP. For example, future Sustainable Groundwater Management Act grant opportunities which may fund a stormwater or flood capture project will require a SWRP and currently the State Water Resources Control Board has upcoming grant opportunities for DACs and non-DACs for stormwater planning and projects.

BUDGET

The initial budget approved by the Board to fund the IRWM Activity Agreement totaled \$333,000. The total proposed budget for the received SWRP proposal is \$105,728. While this expenditure is significant, the identified team members from Woodard & Curran and Provost & Pritchard have extensive knowledge of the area and with similar projects, which will help ensure the Region is compliant with this facet of plan development. Additionally, the current contracts and expenditures under the original approved budget are tracking under budget with certain portions of the work reimbursable by ongoing grants. Staff, at this time, does not plan on increasing the total Activity Agreement budget until other projects near completion or until expenditures approach the original budget.