



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: May 14, 2024

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Design and Environmental Services for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project [Resolution; Agreement]

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City Professional Services contract with Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc., in the amount of \$1,025,545 for initial design services for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project and authorize \$102,555 for potential extra services, for a total expenditure authority of \$1,128,100;
- B. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute a City Professional Services contract with Rincon Consultants Inc., in the amount of \$320,510 for environmental and permitting support services for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project and authorize \$64,102 for potential extra services, for a total expenditure authority of \$384,612; and
- C. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 23-076, Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2024, to Appropriate Funds for Design and Environmental Services for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The Vic Trace Reservoir (Vic Trace) is located at 740 Dolores Drive in the City of Santa Barbara's (City) Mesa neighborhood (see Attachment). The existing facility was constructed in 1956 as a partially buried, 10-million-gallon concrete reservoir used for treated drinking water storage. The City identified the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project (Project) as critical in its Water Distribution Infrastructure Plan (WDIP). The WDIP, finalized in February 2021, provides strategic guidance and practical recommendations to address the City's water distribution and water supply needs through the Planning Year 2050. Vic Trace, the City's largest reservoir, was recommended for replacement due to its age, increasing repair needs, and importance to the City's overall water storage portfolio.

Project Description

The Project will design and construct one or more new buried reservoirs at the same total storage capacity and evaluate repair needs at nearby hydraulically connected pipelines, valves, and pump stations. The first phase of design includes a site layout alternatives analysis to identify possible locations for the replacement tanks, pipelines, and other beneficial facilities. The initial phase will identify site constraints, site access, and construction-phase truck hauling routes to inform public outreach and environmental documentation. Additionally, a funding feasibility analysis will be conducted to inform the Project's competitiveness towards future funding opportunities. The final reservoir replacement design will enhance site resilience, improve operational flexibility, and ensure the long-term viability of a critical water storage facility.

The initial design will work in parallel and coordinate with ongoing environmental documentation and public outreach planning efforts. A preliminary (Phase 1) environmental assessment that analyzed the Project's biological, archeological, cultural, and environmental impacts was completed in the fall of 2023. The final phase of environmental analysis and permitting will fulfill the Project's environmental documentation and permitting needs, including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, design constraints, and ongoing Project environmental monitoring and mitigation requirements.

Current Status

The Project is beginning the preliminary design phase. Council awarded a contract for initial environmental services to Rincon Consultants Inc., (Rincon) on June 13, 2023. Council also awarded a contract for initial public outreach planning services on October 17, 2023, to Katz & Associates Inc., (K&A). K&A is researching and finalizing a Project Strategic Communications Plan over the next nine months.

Upcoming Project milestones include selecting and awarding additional contracts for:

- Project public outreach implementation (expected fall of 2024);
- Final Design (expected spring of 2025); and
- Construction Management and Constructability Review (expected spring of 2026).

Planning and design phase work is expected to take up to three years, followed by the award of a construction contract. Onsite demolition and construction of the new buried reservoir(s) would take place for a duration of approximately two years.

Design Services

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc., (Kennedy Jenks) in the amount of \$1,025,545 for initial design services for the Project, and authorize \$102,555 for potential extra services, for a total expenditure authority of \$1,128,100. Kennedy Jenks is experienced in this type

of work and was selected as part of a competitive Request for Proposals process, from a total of eight firms submitted proposals. They were determined to be the most qualified following the proposal review and interviews.

The selection was made based on Kennedy Jenks' qualifications to perform the full scope of design services to successfully deliver the Project. The contract recommended is for initial design services and the development of a design alternative analysis and preliminary design report only. Upon Kennedy Jenks' successful delivery of this contract, staff will return to Council for approval of a separate contract to provide full design services for the Project and design support during the Project's bidding and construction phases.

Environmental Services

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Rincon in the amount of \$320,510 for environmental documentation and permitting support services and authorize \$64,102 for potential extra services, for a total expenditure authority of \$384,612. Rincon completed the Phase 1 project environmental services, is experienced in this type of work, and was selected as part of a competitive Request for Proposals process in the spring of 2023. They were selected as the most qualified from a total of three firms that submitted proposals. A 20% contingency authority is proposed due to the level of uncertainty and additional unplanned work necessary to complete the project's anticipated Environmental Impact Report.

Community Outreach

With assistance from K&A, staff is developing a Project outreach communication plan. The plan will identify stakeholders and strategies for engagement and input, including direct outreach to the community that will be affected by anticipated construction activity. Community outreach planning started in the fall of 2023 and will continue throughout the Project's environmental, design, and construction process.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The City is currently evaluating different funding options, including the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan from the State of California Water Resources Control Board or the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund the total Project cost.

With the recommended appropriation of reserve funds from the Water Operating Fund to the Water Capital Fund in Fiscal Year 2024, there will be sufficient expenditure appropriations to cover the cost, including potential extra services, of the contracts recommended in this report and future design, environmental, and pre-construction outreach services. The Water Operating Fund continues to meet reserve policy targets in Fiscal Year 2024. The City's current and proposed water rates anticipated these expenses and the expectation that the City will be able to secure a low interest state loan.

The cost of the construction contract for the Project was originally estimated in 2019 at approximately \$32 million. The construction cost estimate will be updated by Kennedy Jenks as part of the initial design services.

ESTIMATED PRECONSTRUCTION PROJECT COST

****Cents have been rounded to the nearest dollar in this table.***

Phase 1 Environmental Services (Rincon – awarded June 2023)	\$120,695
Strategic Communication Plan (K&A – awarded October 2023)	\$148,786
<i>Previously Awarded Subtotal</i>	<i>\$269,481</i>
Phase 2 Environmental Documentation and Permitting (Rincon)	\$384,612
City Staff Costs	\$200,000
<i>Environmental Planning Subtotal</i>	<i>\$584,612</i>
Preliminary Design Services (Kennedy Jenks)	\$1,128,100
Design Services (future contract)	\$2,300,000
City Staff Costs	\$700,000
<i>Design Subtotal</i>	<i>\$4,128,100</i>
Project Public Outreach Services (future contract)	\$500,000
City Staff Costs	\$200,000
<i>Public Outreach Subtotal</i>	<i>\$700,000</i>

A copy of the contract may be requested from the Public Works Department for public review by contacting PWInfo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

This Project requires CEQA environmental compliance and permitting. A contract for the first step in the Project’s initial CEQA documentation process was awarded on June 13, 2023. Phase 1 environmental documentation was completed in October 2023. Phase 2 environmental analysis and documentation will be conducted under Rincon’s Phase 2 contract. The Project’s required environmental documentation and permits will be secured prior to the commencement of construction.

WATER COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

This item was presented to the Water Commission at its meeting on April 18, 2024, and the Commission voted 3:0:2 in support of staff’s recommendation.

- ATTACHMENT:** Project Location Map
- PREPARED BY:** Brian D’Amour, P.E., City Engineer/KB/rl
- SUBMITTED BY:** Clifford M. Maurer, P.E., Public Works Director
- APPROVED BY:** City Administrator’s Office

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 23-076, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR THE VIC TRACE RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City Charter, the City Administrator filed with the Council a proposed budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023;

WHEREAS, the City Council is required to adopt a budget before the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, 2023;

WHEREAS, the City Charter provides that at any public meeting after the adoption of the budget, the City Council may amend or supplement the budget by motion adopted by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the total members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, as authorized by Resolution No. 23-076, this Resolution approves the amendment to the budget as provided herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA THAT in accordance with the provisions of Section 1205 of the City Charter, the budget for the Fiscal Year 2024, as adopted by Resolution No. 23-076, is hereby amended as follows:

The Council approves an increase in expenditure appropriations in the Water Operating Fund in Fiscal Year 2024 in the amount of \$5,412,712, funded from available reserves, authorizes the transfer of such funds to the Water Capital Budget, and approves an increase in revenue and expenditure appropriations in the Water Capital Fund for design, environmental, and pre-construction outreach services for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project.