



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS

FROM: HEIDI NIGGEMEYER, NPDES PROGRAM MANAGER

TITLE: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT - NPDES WATER
QUALITY MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution approving a Professional Services Agreement for services related to the implementation and reporting of NPDES water quality monitoring requirements.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a Resolution approving a Professional Services Agreement for \$178,481 between the City of Salinas and 2nd Nature, LLC for services related to the implementation and reporting of water quality monitoring requirements as stipulated in the City of Salinas NPDES Permit (Permit No. CA0049981).

BACKGROUND:

The City of Salinas was issued its current stormwater permit from the Central Coast Water Board (CCWB) in 2012. Section P and Attachment D outline the minimum sampling, analysis, and reporting requirements the City must implement to be compliant with the NPDES permit. The Salinas Stormwater Monitoring Program (SSMP) addresses the following:

- Urban Catchment Pilot Project Monitoring
- Stormwater Discharge Trend Monitoring
- Receiving Water Monitoring
- Background Receiving Water Monitoring
- TMDL Program Monitoring (Lower Salinas River Fecal Coliform and Nutrient TMDLs)

Ideally, results from the SSMP can be utilized to assess pollutant loading to our local waterbodies as a result of activities within the City as well as from activities outside of our City limits; these results help determine the successful implementation of stormwater management activities in addition to identifying areas that require further mitigation. The initial monitoring program had been in place since 2012; however, following negotiations with the Central Coast Water Board, a new more cost-effective monitoring program was developed and approved in July 2017.

This new program implements water quality monitoring whose results are more representative of discharges from urban areas. The monitoring results from this new program will provide data from which more informed programmatic decisions will be made for implementation of the City's stormwater program.

Council may elect not to approve the proposed and direct staff how to proceed. The implication of this would be 1) determination of how to pay the Consultant for services rendered to maintain compliance with the City's NPDES program; 2) potential to return to the monitoring program originally required in the City's NPDES Permit, which increases monitoring costs significantly (the old program cost ~\$315,000 in FY 16/17); and 3) a potential Notice of Violation from the Central Coast Water Board for inability to implement the required NPDES water quality monitoring program.

A request for qualifications (RFQ) was issued and advertised to consulting firms on February 26, 2016 for services related to NPDES Permit Support. Submittals were received from 14 firms with 2nd Nature and Pacific EcoRisk having the required water quality sampling and laboratory analysis capabilities. 2ndNature is the primary consultant for this new monitoring program, utilizing Pacific EcoRisk for the biological and toxicity monitoring 2ndNature cannot provide. Both firms have a good working relationship with the City and the Central Coast Water Board and are very familiar with the City's past and present stormwater monitoring and reporting requirements. These two firms were the best qualified to provide the water quality monitoring services; instead of choosing one firm it was found to be more economical to have both firms working together to accomplish the NPDES monitoring program requirements.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Approval of the Professional Services Agreement is in alignment with the City's goal to maintain compliance with all regulatory permits, which supports the City Council's goals of an effective, efficient government, effective allocation of resources to achieve sustainability, building strong strategic partnerships with local, state, and federal partners, and maintenance of a safe, livable community

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The total cost of \$178,481 for NPDES water quality monitoring and reporting will be funded from Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund, 9436 – Storm Water Monitoring NPDES, which has a budget of \$225,000 for the SSMP. This CIP fund was approved as part of the Capital Improvement Budget for FY 2017-18 approved by Council on June 20, 2017. Thus, sufficient funds are available to enter into this contract.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
Professional Services Agreement for 2ndNature LLC