

*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: JULY 25, 2017**

**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: THE RIVERSIDE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANT FLOOD CONTROL LEVEE REHABILITATION PROJECT – ADOPTION OF A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND AWARD BID NO. 7484 TO HAL HAYS CONSTRUCTION, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,194,063.**

**ISSUE:**

Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Riverside Regional Quality Control Plant Flood Control Levee Rehabilitation Project and award a construction contract for Bid No. 7484 for the construction of the Riverside Regional Quality Control Plant Flood Control Levee Rehabilitation Project to Hal Hays Construction, Inc., of Riverside, California, in the amount of \$3,194,063.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment based on the mitigated measures set forth in the case record and adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to California Environmental Act Quality (CEQA); and
2. Award a construction contract for Bid No. 7484 – Riverside Regional Quality Control Plant Flood Control Levee Rehabilitation Project to Hal Hays Construction, Inc., of Riverside, California, in the amount of \$3,194,063; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the construction contract with Hal Hays Construction, Inc., including making minor non-substantial changes.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

On March 13, 2017 the Utility Services/Land Use/Energy Development Committee, with Chair Mac Arthur, Vice Chair Soubirous and Member Gardner present, unanimously recommended to receive and order filed for the update on the Regional Water Quality Control Plant Flood Control Levee Rehabilitation Project.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City owns, operates and maintains the Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) located in the northwest section of Riverside on Van Buren Boulevard adjacent to the Santa Ana River (Attachment 2). The facility provides wastewater treatment for the City of Riverside, the community of Highgrove, and the Community Service Districts of Jurupa, Rubidoux, and Edgemont. Flood protection is extremely important so that in times of storm events, when the Santa Ana River level rises, the RWQCP can continue operation for the protection of public health and environmental safety.

In 1942, the City began operation of the treatment plant with very little flood protection along the southern bank of the Santa Ana River. Then between 1965 and 1970, flood protection was provided through construction of an earthen dike and a partial levee. From the late 1970's to the early 1980's, a flood control levee was constructed which was designed to protect the RWQCP against a 100-year storm event. In addition, the top of the levee was modified to include the Santa Ana River recreational trail.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) modified flood control levee requirements to protect against major storm events. The modified levee requirements were subsequently included in the RWQCP permit to operate issued by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board.

In 2011, the Public Works Department hired Webb and Associates to complete analysis of the flood control levee to determine if the levee meets the updated FEMA requirements. The analysis determined that the levee is deficient and about half of it (2,400 linear feet), needs to be raised. The Public Works Department included a CIP project in the fiscal year 2014/15 adopted budget to fund the planning, design and construction of the flood control levee improvements.

## **DISCUSSION:**

In January of 2014, the Public Works Department retained the services of Tetra Tech, Inc., to assist with the project environmental review, permitting, design, and bid specifications. The recommended levee design that provides the maximum benefit consists of raising the levee from 0 to 6 feet in vertical height and constructing a four-foot high reinforced concrete floodwall along 2,050 linear feet of the levee (Attachments 3 & 4).

Additional project benefits include: 1) new asphalt paving for the Santa Ana River recreation trail, 2) a new wrought iron security fence similar to the existing perimeter fencing along Van Buren Boulevard, and 3) improved perimeter security lighting.

### **Project Permitting**

Staff will obtain two permits necessary for the project once the contract is awarded. The two permits are required before construction can begin, which is a City of Riverside Construction Permit, and the second is a Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board State General Permit for Construction Activity. It has been determined that an Army Corps of Engineers permit and a California Department of Fish and Wildlife Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement are not required.

### Environmental Review

As part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements Tetra Tech, Inc., on behalf of the City, prepared an Environmental Initial Study (EIS) (Attachment 5). A Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was sent on March 14, 2017 to the State Clearing House. The thirty (30) day public comment period ended April 17, 2017. As detailed in the EIS, potential impacts were identified with respect to biological and cultural resources. However, with implementation of the recommended mitigation measures identified in the EIS all potential significant project impacts will be reduced to a less than significant level.

### Santa Ana River Recreational Trail and Public Outreach

There is a recreational trail that runs the full length of the levee that accommodates cyclist and pedestrian traffic. During construction, a detour will route traffic from Van Buren Boulevard to Jurupa Avenue and down to the Martha McLean Park for entry back to the trail (Attachment 6). Once construction is completed traffic on the normal route will resume on the Santa Ana River Recreation trail.

Staff attended two project informational meetings to inform the public. The first is the Bicycle Advisory Committee at their February 13, 2017 meeting. The second was the Transportation Board at their March 1, 2017 meeting (Attachment 1).

### Levee Project Bid Award No. 7484

On June 12, 2017, six (6) bids were received for the construction of the Project. The lowest responsive bid was Hal Hays Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$3,194,063, which is comparable to the Engineer's Estimate (Attachment 7).


The Purchasing Services Manager concurs with the award recommendation.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. Total project funding is estimated to be \$3,800,000 for construction, contingencies, engineering support, construction administration and inspection. Sufficient funds are available in the Public Works Department WQCP Levee Upgrade Account No. 9858823-440301 and have been budgeted in the RWQCP CIP fiscal 2016/2017 budget year.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Scott G. Miller PhD, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer  
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Concurs with:

 VICE CHAIR  
FOR CHRIS MACARTHUR, CHAIR  
CHRIS MAC ARTHUR, Chair  
Utility Services/Land Use/Energy Development Committee

Attachments:

1. March 1, 2017 Transportation Board Committee Meeting Minutes
2. Project location.
3. Limits of Flood Control Levee Improvements.
4. Flood Control Levee Design.
5. Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND).
6. Santa Ana River Recreational Trail construction detour.
7. Bid Award Recommendation
8. Presentation