

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: APRIL 27, 2020

ITEM NO: 5

SUBJECT: **SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH GEOSCEICNE SUPPORT SERVICES, INC. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2000 FOR THE BUNKER HILL WELL SITING AND REPLACEMENT STUDY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$130,714**

ISSUE:

Approve a Supplemental Agreement in response to Request for Proposal 2000 for the Bunker Hill Well Siting and Replacement Study with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. of La Verne, California, in an amount not to exceed \$130,714.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Approve a Supplemental Agreement in response to Request for Proposal 2000 for the Bunker Hill Well Siting and Replacement Study with Geosciences Support Services, Inc. of La Verne, California, in an amount not to exceed \$130,714; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Supplemental Agreement with Geosciences Support Services, Inc., including making minor and non-substantive changes and to sign all documents and instruments necessary to complete the transactions.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Riverside Public Utilities Department (RPU) delivers potable water to nearly 67,000 service connections, providing water to over 311,000 people in the community. RPU's water supply consists of groundwater produced from approximately 50 groundwater production wells located within the Bunker Hill, Rialto-Colton, and Riverside basins, with 2/3rds of its supply originating from the Bunker Hill Basin. RPU continually evaluates and manages its water supply infrastructure to ensure its groundwater wells are performing effectively to meet summer peak demands and to exercise the City's water production entitlement rights as defined in the 1969 Western-San Bernardino Judgment.

The average age of an RPU well is approximately 55 years old, with the oldest active production well being 97 years old. RPU utilizes a groundwater well until the asset is no longer effective in extracting water for its intended purpose. Once a well can no longer be used or is unable to meet its need, an evaluation occurs to identify future needs and where and how to replace the well being taken out of service. Many factors go into replacing a well such as the anticipated pumping volume, impacts to adjacent wells within a well field, location to hazards and utilities, prior agreements and water rights, geology, formation depth, anthropogenic impacts, and water quality. Understanding these factors is critical given that drilling and construction costs for a new well often exceed \$3 million dollars.

Given the rich history, record keeping, and experience of the City producing groundwater over the last 100 years, RPU staff has a strong understanding of what areas are good producing areas within the groundwater basin as well as which areas may have increased costs to address production limitations or water quality impairment. RPU staff has identified eight (8) sites that it believes to be the most probable and opportune locations for groundwater replacement wells within the San Bernardino area in the near future. However, because of the many factors that can negatively impact the success of a groundwater well coupled with the large cost of drilling a new well; staff is requesting the assistance of a hydrogeologic consultant to confirm the proposed locations, identify the most efficient well design that provides the greatest production capacity and best water quality, and to evaluate how the proposed replacement well would perform in conjunction with the other wells that RPU operates within its well fields to successfully produce RPU's water rights with the best quality water.

DISCUSSION:

On December 16, 2019, the Finance Department, Purchasing Division posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 2000 for RPU'S Bunker Hill Well Siting and Replacement Study on the City's website for the Water Consultant Panel. On January 23, 2020, two (2) consulting firms responded to RFP No. 2000. These firms are Water Systems Consulting, Inc (WSC) and Geoscience Support Services, Inc. Key staff members reviewed the proposals based on the criteria described in the RFP. The RFPs were scored based on pricing (25%), experience (50%), and approach and methodology (25%). WSC's proposal was for \$78,610 and Geoscience's proposal was for \$130,714. Geoscience and WSC have similar billing rates; therefore, the discrepancy in the cost proposals was due to the greater number of hours Geoscience proposed to complete the work. Upon review, staff agreed that the greater number of hours and level of effort was necessary to obtain the desired outcome. In addition, Geoscience scored higher in other areas including experience, approach, and methodology criteria.

RPU's wells typically stay in operation for more than 75 years; and each well currently costs more than \$3 million to construct. The use of the groundwater model for evaluating the future well sites as proposed by Geoscience provides additional analysis and helps identify the most efficient well design that provides the greatest production capacity with the best water quality.

Based on the final scores staff recommends Geoscience Support Services, Inc. as the best consultant to perform the work. The Supplemental Services Agreement for this work with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. is for \$130,714. The City of Riverside currently has an executed Master Agreement for Professional Consultant Services with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. executed on August 2, 2018.

The project breakdown is proposed as follows:

Project Breakdown	
Bunker Hill Well Siting and Replacement Study	Geoscience Support Services, Inc.
Anticipated Start Date:	May 2020
Anticipated Duration:	9 Months
Coordination Required With:	RPU Water Engineering staff
Reimbursements:	None

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended actions comply with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$130,714. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities Professional Services Account No. 6210000-421000 for Fiscal Year 2019-20.

Prepared by: Todd L. Jorgenson, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Water
Approved by: Todd M. Corbin, Utilities General Manager
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Certifies availability
of funds: Brian Seinturier, Utilities Fiscal Manager

Attachments:

1. RFP Award Recommendation
2. Master Agreement for Professional Consultant Services
3. Supplemental Agreement with Geoscience Support Services, Inc.
4. Presentation