
R-22-33
Meeting 22-05
March 10, 2022

CONSENT ITEM #C2

To: Board of Directors
Open Space Authority

From: Andrea Mackenzie
General Manager

SUBJECT

Approve Amendment to Contract with Southwest Fence and Supply

REVENUE/COST

The total project cost is approximately \$1,141,359.50 which will be paid for by a variety of grant funding, partner funding, and Authority funding. Authority costs for the project are \$75,000, which was budgeted in fiscal year 21/22 work plan for this project and allocated to the Project already approved by the Board. No additional sums will be required from Authority revenues for the contract amendment since that added work will be funding by grants and partners.

BACKGROUND

Grazing is an essential management tool to preserve biodiversity on Coyote Ridge, including rare serpentine-endemic plants, the Bay checkerspot butterfly, California tiger salamander, and California red-legged frogs. The existing grazing infrastructure on the Preserve is in need of repair and must be upgraded to meet the management objectives identified in the Management and Monitoring Plan for the Preserve. For instance, there are numerous breaks in the fences where cattle can pass through, and several troughs are in need of replacement.

The Authority received a Central Valley Project Grant administered through the Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the Coyote Ridge Grazing Improvements Project in the Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve. As part of the overall grant and in collaboration with the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency, the Authority is implementing the Coyote Ridge Fence Removal and Installation Project to remove and replace 12,687 linear feet of fence, install 30,391 linear feet of new fence, install 20 steel gates, and install two pedestrian gates.

The project will enhance habitat for serpentine-dependent species, native grassland species, improve habitat and dispersal for the federally threatened Bay checkerspot butterfly and California red-legged frog, and state threatened California tiger salamander, improve habitat connectivity, and enhance 45 acres of wetlands, riparian corridors, and adjacent uplands.

The Authority prepared and posted a Request for Bids (RFB) on its website and at the Administration Office window on June 11, 2021. The RFB was published in the San Jose Post on June 11, 2021, and June 16, 2021. The RFB was published on local building exchanges that perform such services and emailed to at least three (3) vendors who perform such services. A total of one bid was received from Southwest Fence and Supply (Exhibit A).

The Authority Board approved a \$686,903 contract with Southwest Fence and Supply at the June 24, 2021, Board meeting to implement a portion of the Coyote Ridge Fence Removal and Installation Project for which the RFB was posted. This award amount for the base bid and two additives (fence Runs 1 and Runs 2) in the bid package from Southwest Fence and Supply. Runs 1 and 2 were included in the original contract because they are fencing that is required to protect the future staging area planned as part of the Coyote Ridge Public Access Improvement Project and are funded by that project. Additional additives were included in the bid documents but due to funding gaps, were not requested by Staff for approval when the initial contract was presented to the Board. Those additional additives are for fence Runs 4a, 8, 8a, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 (Exhibit B) and those additions total \$437,006.25. Although the Authority had some of the funding for these additional additives, and Staff anticipated future opportunities to raise additional funds to cover the costs for these additional additives, there was no certainty that the funding gap could be closed.

Since the June 24, 2021, Board meeting, the Authority has received verbal confirmation from Valley Transportation Authority and the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) for a funding contribution of \$122,702.25 and \$167,550.00, respectively. This additional \$290,252.25 fills the funding gap required to complete all the additives that were in the initial bid submittal. Therefore, Staff is requesting that the Board approve a contract amendment to complete the entire project as outlined in the bid received from Southwest Fence and Supply.

During the course of the project, a few change orders for gates and fences were also identified as necessary for the project due to stream crossings or locations where the future public access trails will cross the fence, totaling \$16,940. Additionally, we identified areas on the Valley Water Coyote Ridge Preserve where obsolete fencing should be removed, totaling approximately \$8,510.25 (which will be funded by Valley Water). Together these add up to \$25,450.25.

DISCUSSION

The additional additives included in the bid package total approximately \$429,006.25. The additives we are seeking approval for are the same amount as the prices listed in the bid document, with the exception of additive 4a which was reduced from \$18,000 to \$10,000 due to a change in design. This amount will be paid through a combination of the Central Valley Project Grant, the funding contributions from Valley Transportation Authority and Valley Water, and the \$75,000 budgeted for the project in the fiscal year 21/22 budget and workplan. The identified change orders and fence removal, currently totaling \$25,450.25, will also be covered through a combination of these funding sources. The additives, change orders and additional fence removal total \$454,456.50.

RECOMMENDATION

Amend the Southwest Fence and Supply contract for an additional \$454,456.50 to include the additives identified in the bid package, change orders and fence removal.

Prepared by:

Galli Basson, Resource Management Program Manager

Attachment(s): Resolution 22-25 – A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Authorizing the General Manager to Amend the Contract with Southwest Fence and Supply

Exhibit A – C.1. Bid Proposal Form

Exhibit B – Additive Fence Runs