

BIOLA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To: BIOLA CSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
From: Elaine Cervantes, General Manager
Subject: CWSRF Construction Grant
Attachments: Approval of Bids and Authorization to submit Final Budget Approval to State.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Board of Directors approve bids received for the Biola WWTP Upgrade project and authorize the General Manager to sign and submit the Final Budget Approval to the State.

BACKGROUND:

In August of 2015, the Board of Directors authorized AM Consulting Engineering to submit a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Planning Grant Application to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on behalf of the District for the preparation of a Feasibility Study (Study). The District received a funding agreement for the planning grant in June of 2016 in the amount of \$325,000 and AM Consulting Engineers proceeded with the preparation of the Study. The purpose of the Study was to evaluate the feasibility of reusing treated wastewater effluent from the District's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The Study evaluated several alternatives including updating the existing WWTP to produce disinfected tertiary recycled water to irrigate public parks, school grounds and other landscape areas within the District's service area, producing recycled water for industrial use and for agricultural irrigation, and a non-recycled water alternative that would update the WWTP to remove nitrogen from the effluent so that the wastewater effluent can be allowed to percolate and be protective of the groundwater's beneficial uses.

Due to the high cost associated with constructing a recycled water distribution system and because no industrial or agricultural users were willing to accept recycled water, the most feasible alternative was determined to be non-recycled water alternative. Under this alternative, AM Consulting Engineers developed a proposed project which included upgrading the existing WWTP to Extended Aeration Activated Sludge Facility capable of removing nitrogen from the treated wastewater, which will provide an incidental recharge of groundwater, demonstrate groundwater sustainability, and be consistent with Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) policy of beneficial reuse.

AM Consulting Engineers submitted a CWSRF construction application to the SWRCB in January

2018 requesting funding for the construction of the Project. On October 14, 2021, the District received a funding agreement from the SWRCB, awarding \$5,675,000 for the construction of the Project. The funding agreement was executed in February of 2022.

AM Consulting Engineers was retained by the Board to prepare construction documents for the WWTP Upgrade. Construction documents were finalized in June 2024 and advertised to solicit bids. Four bids were received and opened on September 11, 2024. Bids ranged from \$18 million to \$21.5 million.

The next step in the process is to submit a Final Budget Approval to the State requesting an amendment on the funding amount. The FBA package will take 6 to 8 months to approve and construction will be able to commence after.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The submittal of an FBA package does not have a Fiscal Impact.