



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-26-110
Meeting 26-18
July 8, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 10

AGENDA ITEM

Contract amendment with Sicular Environmental Consulting LLC to provide additional technical support for the La Honda Forest Health Project

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION *den*

Authorize the General Manager to amend the contract with Sicular Environmental Consulting LLC of Berkeley, California to provide additional technical support necessary to add the Northside Road as a haul route for the La Honda Forest Health Project in the amount of \$54,222, bringing the total contract to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$279,158.

DISCUSSION

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors (Board) approved an award of contract with Sicular Environmental Consulting LLC (Sicular, formerly Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management) to provide forest assessment and planning services for the forested lands in La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve on June 26, 2019 (R-19-84). Sicular produced the La Honda Forest Health and Management Plan approved by the Board on July 28, 2021 (R-21-03) and the Woodruff Creek-Folger Addendum on July 26, 2023 (R-22-116). The District subsequently entered into a contract with Buena Vista Services to prepare a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) for the La Honda Forest Health Project as the next step in project implementation (R-24-03).

During THP preparations, underlying structural issues with the Northside Road, an unpaved patrol road connecting upper La Honda Creek Preserve to Highway 35/Skyline Boulevard, were discovered (see Attachment 1). As this road has been identified as a critical potential haul route, the District amended Sicular's contract to initiate a feasibility study of the Northside Road (R-26-03). Further investigations of the Northside Road revealed the need to complete geotechnical borings to confirm geologic stability and finalize designs for road improvements. This amendment would authorize the addition of a subconsultant, CMAG Engineering, to the project team and add funds to complete borings and road designs required to include the Northside Road in the THP.

BUDGET / FISCAL IMPACT

The current fiscal year budget for project # MAA05-010 La Honda Forest Health contains:

☐ sufficient funds.

- ☒ insufficient funds; the next quarterly budget update will include a reallocation of unspent funds from other budgets to cover for this expenditure.
- ☐ insufficient funds; approval of this item requires a fiscal year budget augmentation.
- ☐ future fiscal year budgets will include additional funds to complete the contracted work.

Measure AA

- ☐ No, this contract is not part of a Measure AA project.
- ☒ Yes, this contract is part of a Measure AA project.

The following table outlines the Measure AA Portfolio #5: La Honda Creek—Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects allocation, costs-to-date, projected life-to-date project expenditures and projected portfolio balance remaining. The following table reflects the latest portfolio expenditure projections.

NOTE: This Measure AA portfolio contains an unfunded amount anticipated to be supported through a combination of future portfolio reallocation requests, grants, partnership funding, interest income allocations, value engineering, and Fund 40 General Fund Capital monies.

Measure AA Portfolio #5: La Honda Creek—Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects	
Portfolio Allocation:	\$11,733,000
Grant Income (through FY29):	\$1,000,000
Total Portfolio Allocation:	\$12,733,000
Projected Expenditures:	
05-001 La Honda Creek Land Conservation Opportunities	(\$1,756,093)
05-002 Upper La Honda Creek Grazing Infrastructure	(\$297,432)
05-005 La Honda Creek Red Barn Parking Area and Easy Access Trail	(\$327,514)
05-007 La Honda Creek Trail Connections	(\$1,461,861)
05-008 La Honda Creek White Barn Structural Rehabilitation	(\$705,117)
05-009 La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin Removal and Site Restoration	(\$488,846)
05-010 La Honda Forest Health	(\$2,365,258)
05-011 Lone Madrone Ranch Fence Installation	(\$287,348)
05-012 Paulin Culvert/Bridge Improvements	(\$887,837)
05-013 La Honda Parking and Trailhead Access Implementation	(\$9,893,369)
05-014 Lone Madrone Corrals	(\$324,000)
05-015 Upper La Honda Creek Land Acquisition (Eberhard)	(\$1,026,358)
05-016 Lone Madrone Perimeter Fence	(\$110,500)
05-017 Conservation Grazing Water Development	(\$306,000)
Total Projected Expenditures (life of project):	(\$20,237,533)
Portfolio Balance Remaining (proposed):	(\$7,504,533)

PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND SELECTION

A Request for Proposals & Qualifications (RFPQ) was issued on April 18, 2019, on BidSync and directly emailed to 22 forest management professionals, educational institutions, and agencies. Staff received three proposals by the May 20, 2019, RFPQ deadline. Based on a thorough evaluation, Sicular was deemed the most qualified, given their project team's diverse field knowledge, prior experience with other similar projects, and well designed and justified forest assessment methodology. Sicular demonstrated a deep knowledge of the project's background, setting, deliverables and goals, and submitted a high-quality proposal to perform the scope of work at a fair and reasonable price. For these reasons, the General Manager recommended entering into an agreement with Sicular to complete the La Honda Forest Assessment and Management Planning Project. The Board approved the award of contract at the June 26, 2019 Board meeting. Since 2019, Sicular has provided critical technical insight and produced quality, Board-approved deliverables, including the La Honda Forest Health Assessment and Management Plan and associated Woodruff Creek-Folger Parcel Addendum.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION SUPPORTING THE PROJECT

- **June 26, 2019:** The Board approved an award of contract with Sicular Environmental Consulting to provide forest assessment and planning services for the La Honda Forest. ([R-19-84](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **July 28, 2021:** The Board reviewed and approved the Forest Health Plan and authorized the preparation of an addendum to the Forest Health Plan to include the recently acquired Woodruff Creek-Folger Parcel. ([R-21-103](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **October 12, 2022:** The Board reviewed the Forest Health Plan and next steps for the project, which included developing forest management prescriptions under a forest health THP to improve forest health conditions. ([R-22-116](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **July 26, 2023:** The Board received a study session presentation on the Woodruff Creek-Folger Parcel Addendum to the La Honda Forest Health Assessment and Management Plan as well as the Project Description for the La Honda Forest Health Project. ([R-23-88](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **January 10, 2024:** The Board approved an award of contract with Buena Vista Services to prepare a Timber Harvesting Plan for the Project. ([R-24-03](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **April 9, 2025:** The Board approved a contract amendment with Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management to provide additional technical support for the La Honda Forest Health Project ([R-25-42](#), [meeting minutes](#))
- **January 28, 2026:** The Board approved a contract amendment with Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management to authorize assignment of the contract and provide additional technical support for the La Honda Forest Health Project ([R-26-03](#), [meeting minutes](#))

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board approval, the General Manager will amend the contract with Sicular to provide additional consulting services.

ATTACHMENT

1. Northside Road Map

Responsible Department Head:

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Department

Prepared by:

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Contact person:

Arianna Camponuri, Forest Ecologist II, Natural Resources Department

Data Source(s): Sources: Esri, Vantor, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatosyellam, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap, and the GIS user community, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Northside Road, Upper La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

Building

Present

Trail

Unpaved All-Season Road

Unpaved Seasonal Road

Abandoned / Unmaintained Road

Restored

Preserve Boundary

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
6/26/2026



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