



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-25-41
Meeting 25-11
April 9, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 4

AGENDA ITEM

Authorize the General Manager to Amend a Contract with Buena Vista Services for Additional Road Assessment Work for the La Honda Forest Health Project

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to amend the contract terms with Buena Vista Services to include Tim Best, Certified Engineering Geologist,(CEG), as a sub-contractor for the La Honda Forest Health Project, and to amend the contract amount by \$25,300 to provide additional road assessment and engineering geology work, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$117,300.

DISCUSSION

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors (Board) approved an award of contract with Buena Vista Services to prepare a Timber Harvest Plan (THP) for the La Honda Forest Health Project (Project) on January 10, 2024 ([R-24-03](#)). Throughout 2024, staff conducted pre-consultations and site visits with regulatory and peer agencies, including the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the California Geological Services (CGS), to share the Project objectives, scope, and schedule as part of the THP process. Per the recommendations from CAL FIRE and CGS during the pre-consultations, the General Manager recommends amending Buena Vista Services' contract to (1) include Tim Best, CEG, as a sub-contractor, and (2) provide a supplemental geologic engineering assessment of the road network within the project area, inclusive of site-specific recommendations consistent with the provisions of the Forest Practice Rules (FPR) to minimize the potential for road failure and sediment delivery, and support future forestry operations. This supplemental assessment will inform the next phase of the project planning process and be included with the THP upon submittal.

BUDGET / FISCAL IMPACT

The current fiscal year budget contains:

- ☒ sufficient funds.
- ☐ insufficient funds; the next quarterly budget update will include a reallocation of unspent funds from other project 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.

Measure AA Portfolio #5	
Portfolio Allocation:	\$11,733,000
Grant Income (through FY28):	1,000,000
Total Portfolio Allocation:	\$12,733,000
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	(\$327,513)
05-007 La Honda Creek Phase 2 Trail Connection	(\$1,471,703)
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 Restoration Forestry Demonstration Project	(\$1,015,939)
05-011 Lone Madrone Ranch Fence Installation	(\$287,349)
05-012 Paulin Culvert/Bridge Improvements	(\$728,892)
05-013 La Honda Parking and Trailhead Access – Implementation	(\$3,612,356)
05-014 Lone Madrone Corrals	(\$114,578)
05-015 Upper La Honda Creek Land Conservation (Eberhard)	(\$1,026,358)
Total Projected Expenditures (life of project):	(\$11,832,176)
Portfolio Balance Remaining (proposed):	\$900,824

PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND SELECTION

A Request for Proposals and Qualifications (RFPQ) was issued on October 2, 2023, on the District’s website, BidSync/Periscope, and directly emailed to two forest management professionals. Staff received one proposal by the October 30, 2023, deadline.

Based on a thorough evaluation, Buena Vista Services, LLC., was deemed highly qualified, given the project team’s extensive field knowledge, prior experience with similar forest health projects completed for public agencies in San Mateo County, and a well-designed and justified methodology. Buena Vista Services, LLC., 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 Buena Vista Services, LLC., to prepare the THP. The Board approved the award of contract with Buena Vista Services at the January 10, 2024, Board meeting.

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 Harvest Plan for the Project. ([R-24-03](#), [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.

Environmental review for project implementation will occur through (1) the THP, which is a CEQA equivalent with a robust public process led by CAL FIRE as the lead agency, and (2) the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and the Addendum to the Final EIR prepared for the Wildland Fire Resiliency Program, which the Board approved on May 12, 2021 ([R-21-58](#)) and December 14, 2022 ([R-22-145](#)), respectively. District staff will incorporate the associated mitigation measures and Best Management Practices from the environmental review documents into the proposed project and contract documents.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board approval, the General Manager will amend Buena Vista Services' contract to provide the additional scope of services as outlined.

Responsible Department Head:

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager, Natural Resources Department

Prepared by/Contact person:

Arianna Camponuri, Forest Ecologist I, Natural Resources Department