



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-25-161
Meeting 25-32
December 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM

Award of Contract for Madonna Creek Spillway Design

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter a contract with Terraphase Engineering to provide consulting services for spillway design and environmental permitting at Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve for a base amount not to exceed \$119,632.
2. Authorize a 10% contingency of \$11,963 to cover unforeseen circumstances for a total contract amount not to exceed \$131,595.

DISCUSSION

Severe winter storms in early 2023 damaged the earthen berm of an instream pond at Madonna Creek, located within Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve. The damage was attributed to the pond's undersized spillway, which hydraulic studies show can convey less than a 10-year storm event—well below the standard 100-year storm conveyance capacity. The pond provides documented breeding habitat for the federally and state-listed California red-legged frog (CRLF) and lies within the species' designated critical habitat. In October 2025, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) completed emergency repairs to the berm using funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance Program. To enhance the pond's long-term resilience and support CRLF recovery, the next phase involves increasing the spillway's capacity. If approved, Terraphase Engineering will be contracted to design the spillway improvements, obtain necessary environmental permits, and provide construction oversight. To reduce costs and streamline regulatory approvals, the project will be reviewed for potential coverage under the District's Open Space Maintenance and Restoration Program.

BUDGET / FISCAL IMPACT

The current fiscal year budget for the Madonna Creek Habitat Enhancement, Water Supply, and Bridge Replacement project (MAA01-006) 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 #1: Miramontes Ridge — Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement allocation, costs-to-date, projected life-to-date project expenditures and projected portfolio balance remaining.

Measure AA Portfolio #1: Miramontes Ridge — Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement	
Portfolio Allocation:	\$27,774,000
Grant Income:	\$738,925
Total Portfolio Allocation:	\$28,512,925
Projected Expenditures (Life of Project):	
01-004 Remediation Plan and Ranch Debris Cleanup, Madonna Creek Ranch	(\$419,791)
01-005 Johnston Ranch Land Acquisition	(\$4,942,101)
01-006 Madonna Creek Habitat Enhancement, Water Supply/Bridge Replacement	(\$1,707,800)
01-007 Alves Property Open Space Acquisitions	(\$1,745)
01-008 Johnston Ranch Habitat and Agricultural Water Supply Improvements	(\$2,427,615)
01-009 Arroyo Leon Creek Fish Passage Improvements	(\$1,779,305)
Total Projected Expenditures:	(\$11,278,357)
Proposed Portfolio Amount Remaining:	\$17,234,568

PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND SELECTION

On September 22, 2025, staff issued a Request for Qualifications and Proposals (RFQP) via BidNet Direct and sent emails to a list of qualified firms. A mandatory pre-proposal conference call was held on October 8, 2025, attended by five firms. The following three firms submitted proposals by the October 20, 2025, deadline.

Consultant	Location	Proposed Fee
Water Resources Engineering, Inc.	San Francisco, CA	\$113,816
Terraphase Engineering	Oakland, CA	\$119,632
FlowWest, LLC	Oakland, CA	\$152,852

The proposals were evaluated using criteria outlined in the RFQP, including quality of the proposal, implementation approach, implementation expertise, time and cost saving strategies, and their experience securing environmental regulatory permits in California. The panel deemed Terraphase Engineering as the most qualified and best suited for the Project at a fair and reasonable price. Terraphase Engineering demonstrated the best understanding of the project, permitting needs, and presented an approach to the project that balanced streamlined project design while protecting habitats and minimizing impacts.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION SUPPORTING THE PROJECT

August 9, 2023 - Board Authorization of FEMA Agreements for Federal Assistance Funding ([R-23-82](#), [minutes](#))

July 9, 2025 – Board Authorization of biological services for Madonna Creek Dam Repair Project ([R-25-89](#), [minutes](#))

July 9, 2025 – Board Authorization of construction services for Madonna Creek Dam Repair Project ([R-25-90](#), [minutes](#))

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Award of contract for consulting services is not a project subject to CEQA. Retention of professional consultants will not result in a direct physical change to the environment [CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2)] and does not constitute Board approval of the proposed project or related proposed project elements.

NEXT STEPS

Pending Board approval, the General Manager will execute a contract with Terraphase Engineering to provide consulting design and permitting services for the spillway improvements at Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve.

Attachment

1. Project Map

Responsible Department Head:

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Department

Prepared by/Contact person:

David Liefert, Senior Resource Management Specialist, Natural Resources Department

