



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-25-42
Meeting 25-11
April 9, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM

Contract Amendment with Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management to provide additional technical support for the La Honda Forest Health Project

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to amend a contract with Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management of Berkeley, California in the amount of \$30,000 to provide additional technical support for the La Honda Forest Health Project, bringing the contract to a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$187,293.

DISCUSSION

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors (Board), approved an award of contract with Sicular Environmental Consulting and Natural Lands Management (Sicular) to provide forest assessment and planning services for the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve redwood forest lands on June 26, 2019 ([R-19-84](#)). The Board approved the resulting La Honda Forest Health and Management Plan on July 28, 2021 ([R-21-03](#)), and the Woodruff Creek-Folger Addendum on July 26, 2023 ([R-22-116](#)). Since then, the District has entered into a contract with Buena Vista Services to prepare a Timber Harvest Plan for the La Honda Forest Health Project as the next step in project implementation. A contract amendment with Sicular in the amount of \$30,000 is recommended to provide additional technical support during the preparation of the Timber Harvest Plan to ensure it complies with the Forest Health and Management Plan.

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 #MAA05-010 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 & 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.

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.

NEXT STEPS

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

Responsible Department Head:

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