



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

## PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-26-13  
Meeting 26-03  
January 28, 2026

## AGENDA ITEM 8

### AGENDA ITEM

Award of Contract for Agricultural Water Development Project in La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Award a contract to ECAST Engineering, Inc., of Oakland, CA for a base amount of \$64,001 plus a bid alternate amount of \$26,864, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$90,865.
2. Authorize a 15% contingency in the amount of \$13,630 to be reserved for unanticipated issues, bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$104,495.

### DISCUSSION

The purpose of the La Honda Creek Agricultural Water Development Project (Project) is to develop an agricultural water distribution system that replaces an existing creek diversion within the Harrington Ranch area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. The water system improvements will support continuity of the Conservation Grazing Program while protecting creek flows and riparian habitat. The scope of work for the base bid includes the installation of solar well pumps, a solar power array, 1,500 feet of water distribution lines with connections and valves, and a wireless water monitoring and pump control system. The bid alternate scope of work includes additional enhancements to the project, including the installation of a new 5,000-gallon water tank, fence enclosures around the water well and tanks, and replacement of a cattle water trough. Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) staff originally issued a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two bids on October 9, 2025, with the lowest bid approximately 180% over the Engineer's Estimate. The Board of Directors (Board) rejected all bids on November 12, 2025. The District reissued the RFB and received three (3) bids on December 16, 2025 with ECAST Engineering, Inc., identified as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Work is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2026.

### BUDGET / FISCAL IMPACT

**The current fiscal year budget for project 35012 - Driscoll Ranch New Agricultural Well 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 due to bids coming in higher than anticipated and needing to reject all bids and re-solicit for new bids.
- ☐ 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.

#### PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND SELECTION

A Request for Bids (RFB) was issued on November 26, 2025 via BidNet, legal notices were posted in the newspaper, and a link to the solicitation was posted on the District website. The District opened the bids on December 16, 2025 and announced ECAST Engineering, Inc., as the apparent low bidder. The detailed breakdown of bids received is as follows.

##### Base Bid Analysis\*

Bidder	Location	Total Bid	% Over/Under Engineer's Estimate (\$60,000)
ECAST Engineering, Inc.	Oakland, CA	\$64,001	+7%
Con-Quest Contractors, Inc.	Burlingame, CA	\$133,710	+122%
Pridex Construction Group, Inc.	Folsom, CA	\$165,000	+175%

##### Bid Alternate Analysis\*

Bidder	Location	Bid Alternatives
ECAST Engineering, Inc.	Oakland, CA	\$26,864
Con-Quest Contractors, Inc.	Burlingame, CA	\$56,900
Pridex Construction Group, Inc.	Folsom, CA	\$49,350

\* This project was previously out for bid in the fall of 2025, but all bids were rejected due to the low bid coming in 180% above the engineer's estimate. In this re-bid, the total recommended contract award amount without contingency (Base Bid + Bid Alternative) is approximately \$35,000 lower than the previous lowest Base Bid received on October 9, 2025.

#### PRIOR BOARD ACTION SUPPORTING THE PROJECT

**July 15, 2018:** Board approval to update the Water Resources Section of the Resource Management Policies. The updated Policy directs staff to explore alternate water sources to replace existing stream diversions ([R-18-92](#), [meeting minutes](#)).

**January 8, 2025:** District staff issued a Request for Bids for the Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project on October 30, 2024 and received two (2) bids on November 14, 2024. The low bid did not include the bid bonds and was therefore deemed non-responsive. The high bid came in significantly higher and 70% over the engineer's estimate. Given this outcome, the Board rejected all bids with staff subsequently re-soliciting a new Request for Bids ([R-25-04](#), [meeting minutes](#)).

**March 12, 2025:** Board authorized an award of contract for Driscoll Ranch Well Drilling Project at La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve to Pitcher Services, LLC. ([R-25-30](#), [meeting minutes](#)).

**November 12, 2025:** District staff issued a prior Request for Bids for the La Honda Creek Agricultural Water Development Project on September 18, 2025 and received two (2) bids on October 9, 2025. The low bid was approximately 180% higher than the engineer's estimate, which was developed based on recent similar District projects. Given this outcome, the Board rejected all bids with staff subsequently re-soliciting the new Request for Bids that resulted in the award of contract recommended in this report ([R-25-145](#), [meeting minutes](#)).

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

## **CEQA COMPLIANCE**

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article 19, Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).

## **NEXT STEPS**

If approved, the General Manager will execute a contract with ECAST Engineering, Inc. Work is scheduled to take place in Spring of 2026 once the ground has dried sufficiently for construction equipment access.

### **Attachment**

1. LHC Ag Water Development Area Map

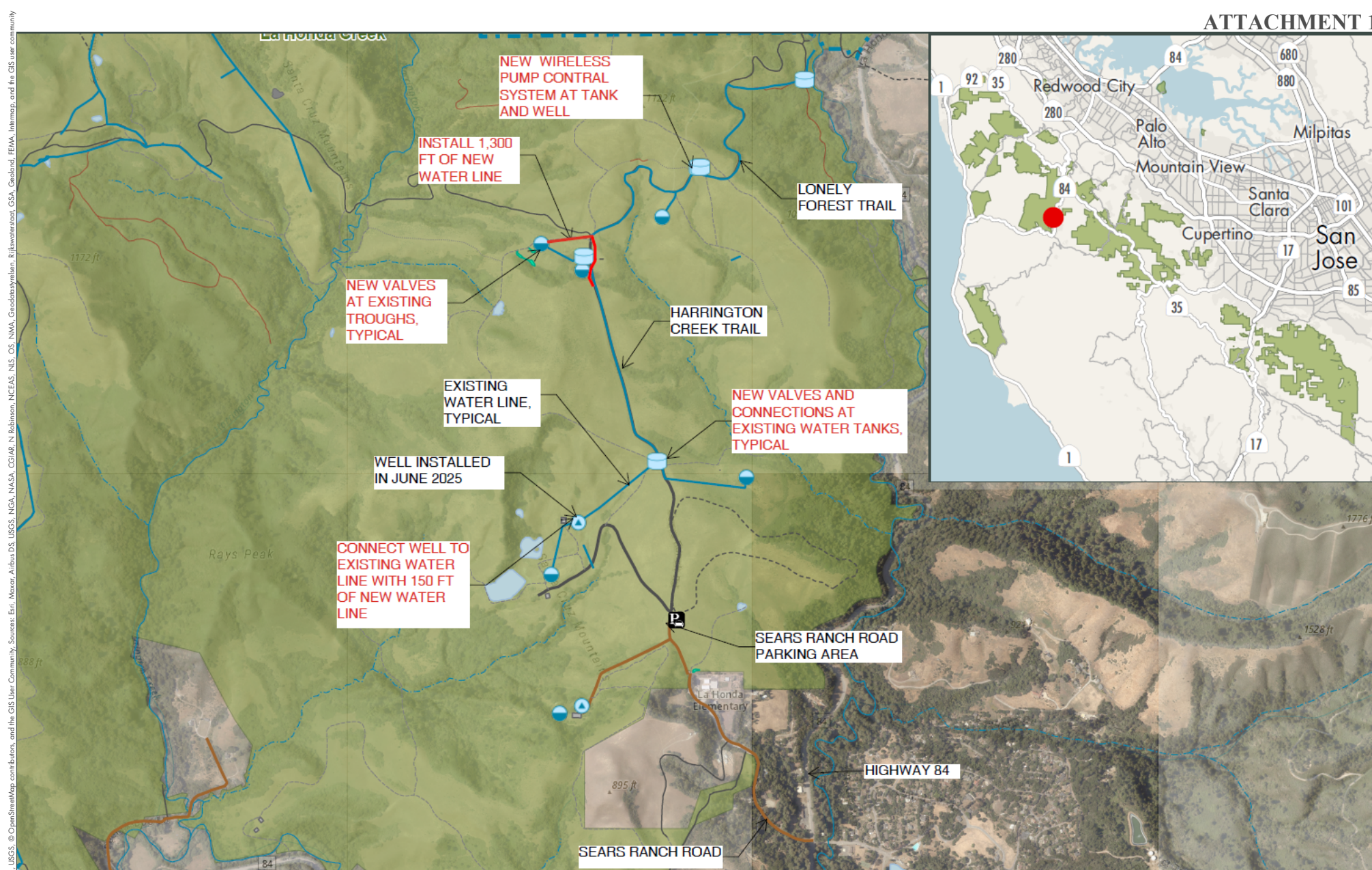
Responsible Department Head:

Scott Reeves, Engineering and Construction Manager

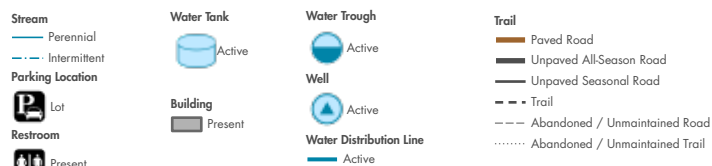
Prepared by / Contact person:

Leigh Guggemos, Capital Project Manager III, Engineering and Construction Department





## LHC Agricultural Water Development Area Map



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District  
8/19/2025

