



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-14-44
Meeting 14-08
March 12, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 3

AGENDA ITEM

Contract Extension with the California Pension Group, LLC., for Legislative Consulting Services Related to Public Employee Pensions

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JGD".

Authorize a contract extension with the California Pension Group, LLC., as follows:

1. Extend the contract by twelve months to March 31, 2015.
2. Increase the existing \$22,000 contract amount by \$12,000 to a not-to-exceed total amount of \$34,000 for legislative consulting services related to potential legislative changes in employee pensions.

SUMMARY

The California Pension Group, LLC., has provided the District with legislative consulting services regarding potential legislative reform to public employee pension programs since February 2012. These services have greatly informed future District costs and budget projections to ensure sound and sustainable fiscal planning and decision making. Consulting costs have been \$1,000 per month, and a total of \$21,240 of an existing \$22,000 contract will be expended through March 2014. Board approval is required to continue these consulting services through Fiscal Year 2014-15 (FY2014-15) at an additional cost of \$12,000, bringing the total not-to-exceed contract amount to \$34,000.

DISCUSSION

On February 2, 2012, the General Manager entered into an agreement with the California Pension Group, LLC., (Consultant) for legislative consulting services regarding potential changes to the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) that could impact the District's pension program and financial obligations. This includes monitoring legislative and initiative developments in the Capital and Governor's Office, privately-funded initiative information, and other information to inform the District of the status of pending initiatives, qualifications, circulation, and other pertinent information.

The Consultant charges an hourly rate of \$200 with a minimum of five hours per month, billed on a monthly basis, and either party may terminate the agreement by providing thirty-day written notice. As of January 31, 2014, the District has expended \$19,240 on this agreement and

anticipates spending another \$2,000 for February and March 2014, bringing the total contract expenses to \$21,240 through March 31, 2014.

The services provided by the Consultant have been extremely valuable, and the General Manager desires to continue the agreement through the end of FY2014-15 at an estimated cost of \$1,000 per month for a total annual expense of \$12,000. This would bring the total contract amount to approximately \$34,000, which exceeds the General Manager's expenditure authority level. Therefore, the General Manager recommends the Board approve an additional \$12,000 through March 31, 2015, for a total amount not to exceed \$34,000, contingent upon Board adoption of the FY2014-15 Proposed Budget on March 26, 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT

The \$12,000 cost has been included in the FY2014-15 Proposed Annual Budget, which is scheduled for final Board consideration on March 26, 2014.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

Board Committee review of this item is not required.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice has been provided as required by the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

The proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and no environmental review is required.

NEXT STEP

Upon Board authorization, the General Manager will amend the existing contract with the California Pension Group, Ins., to continue utilizing the consulting services through March 31, 2015.

Prepared and reviewed by:
Kate Drayson, Administrative Services Manager

Contact person:
Stephen E. Abbors, General Manager