

Central Services  
Joan Araujo, Director

Engineering Services  
Vacant, Director

Roads & Transportation  
Anitha Balan, Director

Water & Sanitation  
Vacant, Director

Watershed Protection  
Jeff Palmer, Director

July 23, 2024

Ventura County Watershed Protection District  
Board of Supervisors  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject:** Approval of, and Authorization for the Public Works Agency Director or His Designee to Execute a Consultant Services Contract with Q3 Consulting for Design Engineering Services for the Ventura River Levee at Casitas Springs Project Final Design, located in the Unincorporated Community of Casitas Springs, in the Not to Exceed Amount of \$1,143,217; Contract No. AE24-048; Project No. P6081927; Watershed Protection District Zone No. 1; Supervisorial District No. 1.

**Recommendations:**

1. Approval of a consultant services contract with Q3 Consulting for engineering services for the Ventura River Levee at Casitas Springs Project final design in the Unincorporated Community of Casitas Springs, in the not to exceed amount of \$1,143,217.
2. Authorization for the Public Works Agency Director or his designee to execute the subject contract if approved.

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	California Wildlife Conservation Board Grant Agreement No. WC-1980DC
Funding Match Required:	No
Impact on Other Departments:	None

**Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:**

		<b><u>FY 2024-25</u></b>		<b><u>FY 2025-26</u></b>
Revenue:	\$	724,116	\$	419,101
Costs:				
Direct	\$	724,116	\$	419,101
Indirect – Agency/Dept.	\$	0	\$	0
Indirect – County CAP	\$	0	\$	0



Total Costs	\$	724,116	\$	419,101
Net Costs	\$	0	\$	0
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$	0	\$	0

**Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:**

<b>Current FY 2024-25 Budget Projection for Zone 1 - Unit 4211</b>				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$9,580,000	\$9,580,000	\$9,580,000	\$0
Revenue	\$13,539,200	\$13,539,200	\$13,539,200	\$0
Net Cost	(\$3,959,200)	(\$3,959,200)	(\$3,959,200)	\$0

Sufficient revenue and appropriations are available in the FY 2024-25 Watershed Protection District Zone 1 budget. Sufficient revenue and appropriations will be included in FY 2025-2026 budget as appropriate.

**Discussion:**

Transmitted herewith is a consultant services contract (Exhibit 3) to prepare final design plans and respective costs estimates for the Ventura River Levee at Casitas Springs (VR-2) Levee System per the Watershed Protection District's (District) standards. This Contract has been negotiated with Q3 Consulting of Foothill Ranch, California in accordance with the policy adopted by your Board on February 6, 1996. The total contract amount is not to exceed \$1,143,217. All contract tasks shall be completed by June 30, 2026.

On June 9, 2020, your Board approved and ratified the execution of the Grant Agreement No. WC-1980DC between the District and the California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) for \$5,025,000 in grant funding for the Matilija Dam Removal – Final Design Project. \$735,000 was budgeted for the VR-2 Levee Project. (Exhibit 4)

Amendment No. 1 to Grant Agreement No. WC-1980DC between the District and the WCB for \$9,356,000 in grant funding for the Matilija Dam Removal – Final Design and CEQA/SEIR for the Casitas Springs Levee Project was signed March 1, 2023. The budget for the VR-2 Levee Project was increased to \$1,604,186. (Exhibit 5)

The VR-2 Levee System is located in the community of Casitas Springs. The original levee system was constructed in 1979 and included an east bank levee and bank protection that began at Edison Hill at the downstream extent and ended at the confluence of San Antonio Creek and the Ventura River at the upstream extent. The levee has been improved over time with levee raising, floodwalls, and additional bank protection.



The levee system has been determined to have deficiencies in freeboard and toe-down protection depth and does not meet requirements to be certified and accredited by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The District intends to repair and reconstruct the existing deficient facility from the Fresno Diversion Structure at the downstream end, approximately 5,200 feet upstream to State Route 33; see the Vicinity Map. (Exhibit 1)

A Pre-Design Project Study Report (PSR) and Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation were prepared for the project by Tetra Tech in March 2022. The PSR evaluated several alternatives and "Alternative 3" was ultimately selected. This alternative is approximately 5,500 feet long and includes four "Reaches." Reaches 1 and 4 located at the south and north ends of the alignment, respectively, will be new embankment setbacks to the east of the original levee alignment. Reaches 2 and 3 generally follow the existing levee alignment. Improvements to the existing levee include raising the existing levee profile elevation and floodwalls at several locations and installing bank protection consisting of conventional and/or concreted riprap with various side slope inclinations.

This levee design work is part of the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration project and will mitigate potential flooding impacts due to removal of the Matilija Dam and shall satisfy the requirements of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 65.10 (44CFR65.10) allowing for the submittal of levee certification documents to FEMA for review and approvals.

**Strategic Plan:**

This item contributes to the Board of Supervisors (Board's) 2024-2027 strategic priority to provide:

- III. Reliable infrastructure and sustainability through
  - 3. Investing in sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, and preservation of our natural resources.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. The Contract is on a standard form previously reviewed by County Counsel.

If you have any questions concerning this item, please contact David Fleisch at (805) 654-2373.

Sincerely,



Jeff Palmer, P.E.  
Director  
Watershed Protection District



Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 – Location Map
- Exhibit 3 – AE23-061 Draft Contract
- Exhibit 4 – WCB Grant Agreement WC-1980DC
- Exhibit 5 – WC-1980DC Amendment 1

