



## ALAMEDA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, ZONE 7

100 NORTH CANYONS PARKWAY, LIVERMORE, CA 94551 • PHONE (925) 454-5000 • FAX (925) 454-5727

**ORIGINATING SECTION:** FACILITIES ENGINEERING  
**CONTACT:** JOHN KOLTZ/RHETT ALZONA

**AGENDA DATE:** May 15, 2019

**ITEM NO. 8d**

**SUBJECT:** Award of Construction Contract for the CWS 5 Turnout Replacement Project

### **SUMMARY:**

- California Water Service (CWS) Turnout No. 5 was constructed in 1975. As identified in the Asset Management Program, significant components of the turnout, located at East Jack London Boulevard near Arlington Road, are near the end of their useful life.
- Proactively replacing aging water system infrastructure maintains water system reliability and helps to avoid untimely and expensive repairs.
- This project will replace meter, valves, and piping components to improve reliability and metering accuracy for determination of water revenue from this turnout. The components will be reconfigured and accommodated within a modified vault to improve worker safety and public convenience as some of the current components are located in the street.
- The project was advertised in accordance with California Public Contract Code and one bid was received from Blocka Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$464,000. Staff has determined the bid to be responsive and responsible.
- The Engineer's Estimate for the project was \$280,000. Construction spatial constraints, traffic issues, and daily working hour constraints were not adequately factored into the Engineer's Estimate.
- Staff recommends award of the construction contract to Blocka Construction, Inc. for \$464,400 and authorizing the General Manager to issue change orders as and when needed in an amount not-to-exceed \$46,440 (10% of construction contract amount).

### **FUNDING:**

Funding for the project is available in Fund 120 – Renewal and Replacement/System-Wide Improvements.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Adopt the attached Resolution.

### **BACKGROUND:**

CWS 5 Turnout is located on East Jack London Boulevard just east of Arlington Road and provides water to the residential and commercial complexes in the area. Per the Asset Management Program (AMP), the CWS 5 Turnout was scheduled for replacement in Fiscal Year 2018-19.

From condition assessments, many of the turnout components including revenue meter, piping, and valves are in need of replacement. The majority of the turnout components are housed within two concrete vaults located in the sidewalk. The vaults also show signs of damage and in need of repair. One major turnout component, an isolation valve to close off the inlet of the turnout for maintenance, is located near the center of the East Jack London Boulevard, an arterial street with frequent traffic.

This project will repair and modify the two existing vaults in the sidewalk to house all of the turnout components. This provides worker safety and added public convenience by having less disruption to street traffic. As part of the mechanical, electrical and instrumentation equipment replacement, the existing turnout propeller flowmeter will be replaced with a new magnetic flowmeter. Propeller meters have a tendency to under report water metering once they are near the end of their useful life. The new magnetic flowmeter is expected to provide more accurate revenue metering.

## **DISCUSSION:**

Staff has determined that the project is categorically exempt under CEQA and the Notice of Exemption (NOE) was filed with the Alameda County Recorder's Office.

In early March, Zone 7 advertised the project in accordance with the Public Contract Code. In addition, the project was advertised on Zone 7's website and Builders Exchanges. On April 16, 2019, one bid was received from Blocka Construction, Inc., Fremont, CA in the amount of \$464,400.

The Engineer's Estimate for this project was \$280,000. Staff analyzed the bid items and solicited feedback from the three potential bidders who attended the March 14<sup>th</sup> pre-bid meeting. Based on feedback and further review, staff did not adequately consider the spatial constraints and time limitations related to this project. Added considerations include:

1. The project footprint is constrained and next to a frequently travelled arterial street. More frequent adjustments to the construction site layout to address safety concerns including more frequent adjustments to traffic control are expected to add challenges and slow down construction progress resulting in more expense.
2. The project is adjacent to a residential neighborhood and an elementary school. Possible complaints and/or additional coordination would result in more expense.
3. The restricted working hours (9:00 am – 3:00 pm) required by the City encroachment permit for this area, results in more frequent mobilization/demobilization expenses.

The challenges above are included in the current Bid Specification Documents, but are not adequately accounted for in the Engineer's Estimate.

Staff marketed the project to other contractors besides the three potential bidders and extended the bid period. The project did not generate interest due to its challenges and the current bidding climate for comparable work being undertaken.

The bid from Blocka Construction, Inc. was determined to be responsive to the contract requirements. Staff believes the bid to be reasonable and recommends the award of the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Blocka Construction, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$464,400. Additionally, staff recommends that the Zone 7 Board authorize the General

Manager to negotiate and issue change orders as and when needed in an amount not-to-exceed \$46,440 (10% contingency).

**SCHEDULE:**

The submittal review and materials procurement phase is expected to begin once the contract is executed. Actual construction is expected to commence around October 2019 and substantial completion of the project is anticipated by December 2019.

**ATTACHMENT:**

Resolution

ZONE 7  
ALAMEDA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO.

INTRODUCED BY  
SECONDED BY

**Award of Construction Contract for the CWS 5 Turnout Replacement Project**

WHEREAS, Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has a project for the construction of the CWS 5 Turnout Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Exemption per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines was prepared and filed for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Project plans, specifications, appendices, and addenda were developed and advertised for bids in accordance with the California Public Contract Code; and

WHEREAS, one bid was received and publicly read by the Zone 7 General Manager's authorized representatives at the Zone 7 Administration Office, 100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore, California on April 16, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive and responsible bid received for this project is the bid by Blocka Construction, Inc., with a bid of \$464,400.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District does hereby approve the plans, specifications, appendices, and addenda for the CWS 5 Turnout Replacement Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the bid of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Blocka Construction, Inc., be accepted, and that the contract for the work be awarded to Blocka Construction, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$464,400; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager be authorized to negotiate and execute the contract with Blocka Construction, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$464,400; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager be authorized to negotiate and issue change orders as and when needed in an amount not-to-exceed \$46,440.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District on May 15, 2019.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Directors