



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. _____

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DRAFT

AGENDA DATE: July 3, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of Consulting Services For Sewer Maintenance And Operations Training For Wastewater Collection Field Crews

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a Professional Services Contract, subject to approval as to content by the City Attorney, with Tilson & Associates, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$59,268, for onsite sewer system operation and maintenance training services for the Water Resources Division, Wastewater Collection Section.

DISCUSSION:

The City's Wastewater Collection staff maintain approximately 256 miles of sanitary sewer lines. Primary objectives for the Wastewater Collection staff include timely cleaning and repair of the collection system to prevent sanitary sewer overflows (spills). Important to this effort are effective pipe cleaning and keeping accurate records.

The proposed consulting services will provide the Wastewater Collection Section staff with updated field operations training and with documentation development procedures for both standard and emergency operations. Field training will assess existing cleaning practices used by staff and provide updated procedures that ensure higher efficiency, effectiveness, and accurate data collection. New standard operating procedure documentation will codify best practices taught to crews for cleaning sewer mains, cleaning tool selection, data collection, record keeping, and inventory management.

Tilson & Associates, LLC (Tilson), has provided similar services to many public sewer collection agencies and has a successful record of providing technical training to public agency sewer collection field employees resulting in improved system performance. Contract services will be provided over eighteen months.

Staff has negotiated an acceptable proposal with Tilson to provide these professional services and has used, as an example, the terms of a similar contract between Tilson and the City of San Diego. Staff has negotiated reduced consulting rates with Tilson for

the City of Santa Barbara that are lower than the rates charged to San Diego for similar consulting work.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

There are sufficient appropriated funds in the Wastewater Operating Fund to cover the cost of these onsite consulting services.

At their meeting on June 11, 2012, the Board of Water Commissioners **voted - - to** approve staff's recommendation.

PREPARED BY: Christopher Toth, Wastewater System Manager/avb

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office