



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No.

DRAFT

Item 8

AGENDA DATE: February 25, 2014

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval of Purchase Orders For Primary Coagulant Chemicals For The William B. Cater Water Treatment Plant

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council find it in the City's best interest to waive the formal bidding process, as authorized by Municipal Code 4.52.070(k), and authorize the City General Services Manager to:

- A. Issue a Purchase Order to California Aluminum Chemicals in an amount not to exceed \$18,500 for the purchase of approximately 47,000 pounds of CalChem CC 2110 coagulant chemical for a full-scale plant trial;
- B. Issue a Purchase Order to California Aluminum Chemicals in an amount that is within approved budgeted amounts for the purchase of coagulant chemicals on an as-needed basis, with the option to renew the Purchase Order for an additional four years, subject to Council's adoption of the budget; and
- C. Issue a Purchase Order to Summit Research Labs in an amount that is within approved budgeted amounts for the purchase of coagulant chemicals on an as-needed basis, with the option to renew the Purchase Order for an additional four years, subject to Council's adoption of the budget.

DISCUSSION:

The William B. Cater Water Treatment Plant (Cater) provides regional water treatment to the communities of Santa Barbara, Summerland, Montecito, and Carpinteria. A major part of the water treatment process involves removing suspended particles that can harbor bacteria. The addition of a coagulant chemical makes the suspended particles adhere to each other. As the particles become larger and heavier, they settle and are readily removed during the treatment process.

In an effort to continually try to improve the treatment process and to provide for competitive bid pricing, Cater staff has an ongoing process to test newly developed

coagulant blends. Cater staff has tested coagulants from many different manufacturers throughout the years and has been purchasing Sumaclear 830B from Summit Research Labs through an annual purchase orders since 2007.

Recent bench testing showed that California Aluminum Chemicals' (CalChem) CC 2110 more effectively removes the Total Organic Carbon and lowers turbidity levels compared to equivalent doses of the Sumaclear 830B. Staff is confident with the bench testing results, and recommends issuing a Purchase Order to CalChem in an amount not to exceed \$18,500 for the purchase of approximately 47,000 pounds of CalChem CC 2110 coagulant chemical for a full-scale plant trial. Upon the successful results from the plant trial, staff recommends issuing a Purchase to CalChem in an amount that is within approved budgeted amounts for the purchase of coagulant chemicals on an as-needed basis, with the option to renew the Purchase Order for an additional four years, subject to adoption of the budget.

Cater has an annual budget of \$450,000 for coagulant chemicals. Coagulant chemicals are critical to the water treatment process, and having two suppliers would offer a level of redundancy and protection if there was an issue with either supplier. Staff recommends authorizing purchase orders with both CalChem and Summit Research Labs, for a total allocated amount of \$450,000. Purchase of chemicals from either vendor will be performance based, depending on CalChem's performance during the full-scale plant trial, changing water chemistry of Cater's raw water source, suppliers' ability to deliver, and chemical costs based on necessary feed rates, plus fixed charges.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Coagulant chemical costs are estimated to be \$450,000 for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015. There are sufficient funds in the Water Fund to cover these costs.

PREPARED BY: Catherine Taylor, P.E., Water System Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca Bjork, Acting Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office