

DATE: September 21, 2017

TO: Watershed Conservation Authority Governing Board

FROM: Deborah Enos, Deputy Executive Officer

THROUGH: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 22: Consideration of a resolution to authorize Board Chair or designee to award a construction contract for the Parque Dos Rios Project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) authorize the Governing Board Chair or designee to award a construction contract with a local youth conservation corps in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000 for the implementation of the Parque Dos Rios project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Parque Dos Rios is a 7-acre site, owned in fee-title by the WCA, located along the Lower Los Angeles River at Imperial Highway and I-710 Freeway in the City of South Gate (Exhibit A). Planned improvements, funded through a \$1.5 million grant from Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District, includes a bike stop and overlook adjacent to the Lower LA River bike trail with bench seating, a shade structure, stone columns, wood decking, interpretive signage, decorative entry gates at Imperial Highway access point, landscaping featuring native plants, shrubs and trees. A municipal water meter, irrigation system and updated fencing completes the trail amenity and habitat enhancement project.

BACKGROUND: A contract with a local youth conservation corps to implement this LA County Prop A project is desired with a start date target of early November 2017. To meet this start date and to have a construction schedule that supports a winter 2018 planting window a contract award is necessary prior to the next Governing Board Meeting scheduled for November 16, 2018.

Staff received construction services proposals from both Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) and Long Beach Conservation Corps (LBCC). Due to the unique nature of working with a-risk youth corps and to ensure both the best quality project and highest job training experience possible using local hires and skilled professional construction personnel to supervise and train youth, staff recommends contracting with LBCC for the following considerations:

1. LBCC proposes partnering with North East Trees construction division with Tom Dwyer as Construction Supervisor
2. LBCC proposes utilizing Golden Lands to complete more complex specialty trade work and skilled labor to train youth. Golden Lands specializes in public lands work and habitat restoration with years of experience working for the U.S. Forest Service and with conservations corps
3. LBCC has been contracted by the City of South Gate to operate a satellite youth corps within the City utilizing local hire at risk youth. This relationship will offer potential for additional support of the project post-construction and will help to ensure consistent and on-going maintenance.

In addition, the utilization of North East Trees Construction team brings the added benefits of having been the original planning team, funded through a direct grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to select the site, aid in its acquisition and in preparing the Construction Documents. In 2016/2017, WCA contracted with NET to complete entitlements and permit construction document updates to obtain approvals from the City of South Gate, Army Corps of Engineers and Caltrans. To date, all permits have been approved and are ready to be issued.

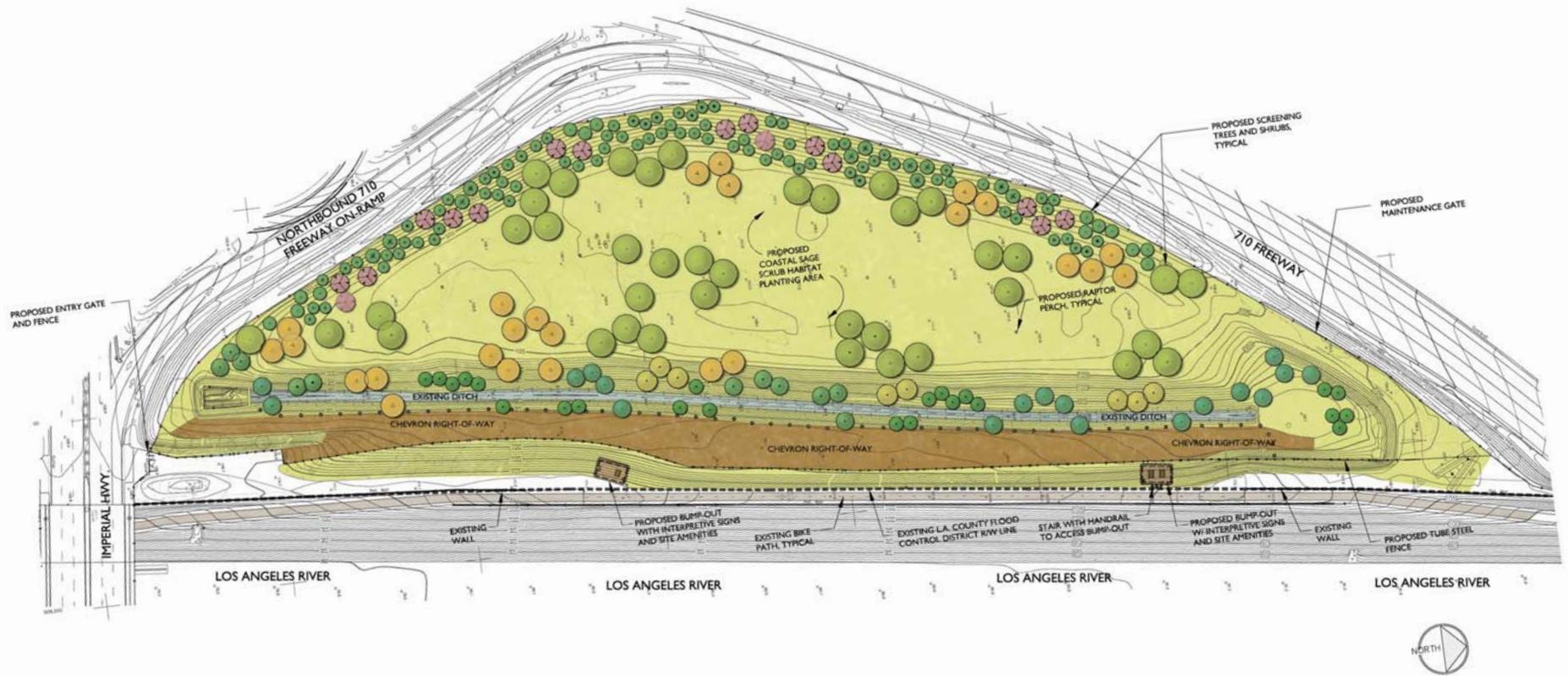
Staff has met with LBCC and NET to review their cost proposal and requires additional time to confirm the scope and pricing before a contract award can be completed. To keep the targeted November 2017 start date, staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Chair, or designee, the authority to award a construction contract to a youth conservation corps for a value not to exceed available Proposition A budget for construction, of \$1,100,000 including construction supervision and field oversight support by NET.

Certified Local Youth Corps	Corps/ Contractor	NET CM	Contingency	SubTotal	NET Field A/E Oversight	Corps + NET Field A/E Support
LACC	\$856,777	-	\$128,517	\$985,777	\$74,350	\$1,060,127
LBCC	\$962,209	\$57,600	\$127,300	\$1,147,019	\$74,350	\$1,221,459 *
Construction Budget				\$1,025,000	\$75,000	1,100,000

* Variance between proposal primarily related to additional NET CM fee, fencing estimate, and additional scope by LBCC related to water meter and plant establishment; scope/cost is currently under review between LBCC and Contractor/NET to ensure work can be completed within available budget.

If LBCC is unable to provide contracted services within budgeted levels and within desired timeframe, staff will consider other proposals and seek to forge similarly beneficial partnership with NET to complete work within budgeted levels and to achieve desired high quality project.

FISCAL INFORMATION: The requested authorization is to award a not to exceed \$1,100,000 contract, the budgetary limit for construction and is fully funded by a Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District Prop A grant. A grant extension, as required, shall be secured prior to the award of a construction contract.



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RESOLUTION 2017-39

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR OR DESIGNEE TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE PARQUE DOS RIOS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, this action authorizes the Chair, or designee to award a construction contract for the Parque Dos Rios project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. **FINDS** that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. **FINDS** that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of CEQA.
3. **ADOPTS** the staff report dated September 21, 2017.
4. **AUTHORIZES** the Chair, or designee to award a construction contract for the Parque Dos Rios project for a value not to exceed \$1,100,000.

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Resolution 2017-39

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On September 21, 2017

M. Janet Chin, Governing Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall
Deputy Attorney General