



## CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY

### MEMORANDUM

January 24, 2024

**TO:** CCWA Board of Directors

**FROM:** John Brady, Deputy Director

**SUBJECT:** Water Treatment Plant Main Gate Erosion Repair Project, Proposed Budget: \$45,000

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#### SUMMARY

Significant erosion has occurred on the hillside near the main gate of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and is propagating towards the main access road with the passing of each significant storm. This soil erosion is considered urgent and requires repair in the near term. The soil erosion was created from the outfall of the main access road drainage v-ditch located on the north side of the road. This v-ditch captures stormwater run-off from an approximate 2,000-foot length of the access road itself, with some limited run-off from side slopes. The end of the v-ditch was equipped with rip-rap rock for energy dissipation. However, due to the highly erosive nature of the soil surrounding the WTP, run-off from major storms has created erosional rills and gullies into the soil downstream of the rip-rap rock that are propagated up-hill through time. This erosion is now in close proximity to the access road and may threaten the integrity of the access road if the erosion propagates closer to the road.

Staff has been soliciting bids from contractors over the last several months with little to no response. The project was considered too small and remote by contractors during a time of high demand for contractors. However, recently, staff received two bids to perform the required work (one verbal and one written), with the lowest responsive and responsible bid from Raminha Construction Inc. at \$36,789.

Staff requests Board approval to: (1) fund the proposed Project through the use of the Appropriated Contingencies Budget for the WTP, and (2) award the repair contract to Raminha Construction Inc.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors:

1. Approve and adopt Resolution No. 24-01 Approving a Contract with Raminha Construction, Inc. for the Water Treatment Plant Main Gate Erosion Repair Project in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$45,000; and
2. Find that since the activity is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (minor alterations of land), the Board's approval of Resolution No. 24-01 does not have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

## DISCUSSION

When stormwater runoff is collected and conveyed through a designed concrete lined drainage channel, it has the potential to create significant soil erosion downstream of the discharge point. The volumetric flow rate and velocity of the discharge and the ground slope of the discharge point will determine the extent of soil erosion.

Although the WTP access road v-ditch had rip-rap rock in-place to dissipate the energy associated with the stormwater run-off to reduce the potential for soil erosion, the flow eventually passes through and past the rip-rap rock section and further down the hill side. There is a significant drop in elevation from the access road to the bottom of the hillside. This creates the situation where rill and gully erosion will occur and as the erosion proceeds, it will propagate up the hillside. This gully erosion is now approaching the main access road for the WTP and will threaten the integrity of the WTP access road and it gets closer to the road.

The current plan is to repair the gully erosion between the access road and the WTP perimeter fence, which has a flow path of approximately 170 feet. The repair will include grading the erosional ditch to recompact surrounding soils into the ditch. The grading will be approximately 20 feet wide and will create a disturbance of approximately 3,400 square feet. The v-ditch discharge point will be re-constructed through placing and compacting approximately 50 cubic yards of Class II Road Base, contouring the drainage path and installing new rip-rap rock. Straw will be placed on all disturbed areas and punched into the soil as an additional erosion prevention measure. Due to the low level of annual precipitation, it is anticipated that this repair will last for a number of years.

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

CCWA Board Resolution #23-09 states that if the purchase price exceeds \$25,000 and not included in the approved CCWA Budget, then the Executive Director shall seek approval from the Board of Directors for awarding the contract. Since this project is not identified within the approved budget and is over \$25,000 in cost, staff seeks Board authorization for the Executive Director to award the contract for the subject project.

In addition, the CCWA Budget includes an appropriated contingency fund, which is established at 2% of the total budget, excluding variable electrical and chemical budget amounts. The purpose of this budget is to fund projects similar to the Water Treatment Plant Main Gate Erosion Repair Project. However, in order to utilize this fund, Board approval is required. Therefore, staff seeks Board authorization to use these funds to cover the cost of the project.

Finally, in terms of procurement, Resolution #23-09 requires that competitive bids be solicited from at least three qualified contractors. Staff did solicit competitive bids from three qualified contractors and the results are presented in the table below:

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Bid</b>
Raminha Construction, Inc.	\$36,789.00
Viborg Construction, Inc. – verbal	\$40,000.15
Lopez and Sons Construction, Inc	No Response

Staff reviewed the Bids and determined the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder is Raminha Construction Inc. Staff is requesting authorization to utilize \$45,000 from the WTP Appropriate Contingency Budget to fund this project. The purpose of the funding above the low bid amount is

to provide additional funds to cover potential cost increases associated with changes in the scope during the project.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The proposed Project is categorically exempt under Class 4 Section 15304 – Minor Alterations of Land of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines because the Project involves minor public alterations of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The Project involves the repair of an existing erosional facility located adjacent to the main entry gate of the Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant. Repair activities involve the grading of an approximate 1,400 square foot area and the placement of approximately 50 to 70 cubic yards of fill material within the erosional facility. All Project activities will take place within the CCWA property line. No wetlands or other special habitats are present at the Project site or in the nearby area. The Project site is surrounded by non-native grassland and disturbed, ruderal habitat and has low value as habitat for endangered, rare, or threatened species; however, all pre-construction and construction monitoring actions described in CCWA's approved Habitat Conservation Plan and associated Incidental Take Permit will be implemented, as needed.

### **Attachments:**

Resolution No. 24-01 Approving a Contract with Raminha Construction, Inc. for the Water Treatment Plant Main Gate Erosion Repair Project in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$45,000

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY  
APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH RAMINHA CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR THE  
WATER TREATMENT PLANT MAIN GATE EROSION REPAIR PROJECT IN AN  
AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$45,000**

**RECITALS**

- A. There is significant hillside erosion near the main gate of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) that is propagating towards the main access road with the passing of each significant storm.
- B. The erosion was created from the outfall of the main access road drainage v-ditch, which captures stormwater run-off from an approximate 2,000-foot length of the access road itself. Although the end of the v-ditch is equipped with rip-rap rock for energy dissipation, the highly erosive nature of the soil surrounding the WTP permits run-off from major storms to create erosional rills and gullies into the soil downstream of the rip-rap rock that are propagated up-hill through time.
- D. As the erosion is now in close proximity to the main access road and threatens its integrity, addressing the issue is urgent.
- E. Staff solicited bids from qualified contractors to undertake repairs that will mitigate gully erosion between the access road and the WTP perimeter fence. Proposed repair will consist of grading the existing erosional ditch to recompact surrounding soils into the ditch. The grading will be approximately 20 feet wide and will create a disturbance of approximately 3,400 square feet. The v-ditch discharge point will be re-constructed through placing and compacting approximately 50 cubic yards of Class II Road Base, contouring the drainage path and installing new rip-rap rock. Straw will be placed on all disturbed areas and punched into the soil as an additional erosion prevention measure.
- F. Staff now seeks Board approval of an award of contract to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder, Raminha Construction, Inc. Because this undertaking was not identified within the approved budget for this fiscal year, Board approval is required to draw funds from the Authority's contingency fund.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DOES HEREBY RESOLVE  
AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2. Approval of an Award of Contract.** The board hereby approves a contract with Raminha Construction, Inc. for the WTP Main Gate Erosion Repair Project in the amount of \$36,789, up to a Do-Not-Exceed amount of \$45,000 (reserved for extensions and change orders), which shall be drawn from the fiscal year 23-24 appropriated contingency fund.

**Section 3. CEQA Finding.** The proposed project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (minor alterations of land) because the Project involves minor public alterations of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The Project involves the repair of an existing erosional facility located adjacent to the main entry gate of the Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant. Repair activities involve the grading of an approximate 1,400 square foot area and the placement of approximately 50 to 70 cubic yards of fill material within the erosional facility. All Project activities will take place within the CCWA property line. No wetlands or other special habitats are present at the Project site or in the nearby area. The Project site is surrounded by non-native grassland and disturbed, ruderal habitat and has low value as habitat for endangered, rare, or threatened species; however, all pre-construction and construction monitoring actions described in CCWA's approved Habitat Conservation Plan and associated Incidental Take Permit will be implemented, as needed.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Central Coast Water Authority, this 25th day of January, 2024, by the following vote:

	VOTING PERCENTAGE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
City of Buellton	2.21%	_____	_____	_____	_____
Carpinteria Valley Water District	7.64%	_____	_____	_____	_____
Goleta Water District	17.20%	_____	_____	_____	_____
City of Guadalupe	1.15%	_____	_____	_____	_____
Montecito Water District	9.50%	_____	_____	_____	_____
City of Santa Barbara	11.47%	_____	_____	_____	_____
City of Santa Maria	43.19%	_____	_____	_____	_____
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1	7.64%	_____	_____	_____	_____

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Central Coast Water Authority held on January 25, 2024.

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Eric Friedman, Chairman

Attest:

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Elizabeth Watkins  
Secretary to the Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP

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Stephanie Osler Hastings