



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, September 13, 2022

TO: City Council

FROM: PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR CALUBAQUIB
ROBERT BERRY, SENIOR UTILITIES ENGINEER

THROUGH: CITY MANAGER MENDEZ

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPROVING SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE
AGREEMENT WITH VERDE DESIGN, INC., FOR THE
WATSONVILLE SLOUGH CONNECTOR TRAIL PROJECT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$161,300

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution approving the second amendment to a professional services contract between the City of Watsonville and Verde Design, Inc., a corporation, adding to Scope of Work, increasing contract compensation by \$161,300.00, and to extending the term of the contract to June 30, 2023; and authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute the same.

BACKGROUND:

Verde Design, Inc. was contracted in 2019 to provide design services to the City to develop construction documents, plans, and specifications for the Watsonville Slough Connector Trail Project at Ramsay Park that is partially funded by an Urban Greening Grant from the California Natural Resources Agency. The project consists of adding trails, sidewalks, trees, irrigation, landscaping, signage, pedestrian and bicycling improvements, as well as other green infrastructure at Ramsay Park. The purpose of the project is to enhance access and safety for park users and non-vehicular commuters, as well as enhance the environment and provide educational opportunities to the public. A first amendment to the contract was approved by the Council on July 6, 2021 (Resolution No. 189-21 (CM)) increasing the contract amount by \$28,500 and extending the term to address design delays due to Covid-19 and to add design services for grant required signage.

DISCUSSION:

Construction of the Watsonville Slough Connector Trail (WSCT) project was formally bid out in the Spring of 2021. On August 19, 2021 a Notice to Proceed was issued to Granite Construction. Shortly thereafter, the Parks and Community Services Department was awarded a grant from the State of California that increased the funding of the Ramsay Master Plan project by \$7,000,000. This grant allowed Parks staff to realize the entirety of the Master Plan

could be constructed in a few years. Previous plans were to design the entire Master plan, but construct only the Sotomayer Soccer Field upgrade, new playground, and new dog park with the available funding, holding off on building the multipurpose softball / soccer field until adequate funding was provided. The time frame to acquire that funding was anticipated to take up to ten years.

Staff realized the since the master plan work would be completed with three to four years, parts of the recently completed Watsonville Slough Connector Trail project would need to be removed, including areas such as bioswales that were required as part of the Urban Greening Grant. The City, in unison with their design consultant, Verde, decided to adjust the scope of the WSCT project to both meet the grant requirements, while making improvements to Ramsay Park that were part of the upcoming master plan. These improvements required both substantially expanding the design of the WSCT project, while de-scoping other areas that were already in the contract. With these changes, Staff believes the public is delivered a better product both in the current design and one that acts as the first phase of the Master Plan, while not wasting State and local dollars.

The consultant proceeded with this expanded scope on an hourly basis based on rates outlined in the contract. This enhanced design produced two phases, following the construction of the original Phase 1:

Phase 2: The work was redesigned from the original Phase 2, which included the installation of new raingardens and the slurry coat on the existing parking lot and sports courts. Those items were either deleted or relocated, and the focus of this phase was to provide a new asphalt paving basketball court complete with bench seating and raingardens. Design and construction of the court was initially to be included in the Ramsay Master Plan, but staff believed the revised WSCT project presented a strong opportunity to get the court built earlier. Along with the basketball court, part of the original design of the WSCT project was also addressed during this phase as well.

Phase 3: The scope of this phase includes both meeting grant criteria, as well as making improvements that will benefit the future Ramsay projects. Design includes repaving the south parking lot off of Harkin Slough Rd. that will serve the new Nature Center. Thirteen tree wells and a new rain garden will be installed, meeting the requirement of the Urban Greening Grant. The City and their consultant are also using this as an opportunity to improve the transitions from the parking lot to the trails leading to the new Nature Center Site with new concrete walkways. The design also includes new and relocated parking lot lights and infrastructure for security cameras.

Staff had directed Verde to proceed with these design changes to keep the project moving forward. Attached is their proposal for Additional Services No 2, dated August 25, 2022, in the amount \$161,300. This includes construction administration during the construction of Phase 3, added site meetings, and project closeout.

Staff has reviewed the scope of work of Additional Service No. 2 and is requesting its approval. This will compensate the consultant for their services on the expanded WSCT projects as the

City begins to move forward with the design and eventual construction of the Ramsay Park Renaissance Master Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Watsonville Slough Connector Trail project supports Strategic Plan Priorities:

- 3-Infrastructure & Environment
- 5-Community Engagement & Well-Being

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Sufficient funds for this amendment reside in account 0281-929-7820-14106 and were appropriated for this project through the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

There are no real alternatives for approving Amendment No. 2. The majority of the work contained the scope has been completed as the project progressed.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

- 1) Verde Design letter dated August 25, 2022 requesting additional design services.