

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (CM)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC., A CORPORATION, FOR HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM TREATMENT PRELIMINARY DESIGN REPORT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$746,558; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME; AND AUTHORIZING A BUDGET APPROPRIATION IN FY 24/25 OF \$498,558 FROM THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND [0720]

WHEREAS, § 3-5.500 of the Watsonville Municipal Code provides that an RFP or RFQ process is found to be an effective and efficient way to procure professional services and procurement of professional services shall be based on proposals solicited from capable professionals and be evaluated based on a combination of factors including education, training, experience and demonstrated competence and professional qualifications necessary for the satisfactory performance of the services required; and

WHEREAS, § 3-5.540 of the Municipal Code provides that contracts for professional services estimated to cost more than One Hundred Thousand and no/100ths (\$100,000.00) Dollars must be awarded by the Council, and that the selection will be based on demonstrated competence and the education, training and experience and professional qualifications necessary for the satisfactory performance of the services required, that cost will not be the only basis for selection, and must use a qualifications-based selection process as described in subdivision (a) of § [4527](#)¹ of the California Government Code and negotiated as described in § [4528](#); and

WHEREAS, the City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in July 2023, asking for qualified consultants to assist the City with On-Call Water and Wastewater

¹ All references to section numbers are to the California Government Code.

Design Services; and

WHEREAS, the deadline for submittal of Request for Statement of Qualifications was August 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recommended that the proposal from Carollo Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$746,558, be accepted as the best response.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. This action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the award of the contract for a preliminary design report does not qualify as a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15378. Awarding the contract for design services, which are akin to a study, has no potential for direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and is merely an administrative activity of the government. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15378(a), (b)(5).) Even if awarding the contract was a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 because it involves only a feasibility or planning study for possible future actions which the City has not approved, adopted, or funded, and awarding the contract has no legally binding effect on later activities (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15262.), and under the “common sense” exemption because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3).)

2. The Council awards a contract to Carollo Engineers, Inc., for design services for the Hexavalent Chromium Treatment Preliminary Design Report, in an amount not to exceed \$746,558.

3. That the Contract for Consultant Services between the City of Watsonville and Carollo Engineers, Inc., a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, is hereby approved.

4. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute said contract for and on behalf of the City of Watsonville with minor revisions that may be approved by the City Manager and the City Attorney.

5. That the budget appropriation of \$498,558 from the Water Enterprise Fund [0720] balance into budget account 913-7855-14346 for FY24/25 is hereby authorized.
