



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Community Development and Infrastructure

Subject: Ratify Contract for the 2022-23 Atmospheric River Winter Storm Emergency Projects

Meeting Date: March 25, 2025

Formal Title: Ratify contract with Gordon N. Ball, Inc., for the 2022-23 Atmospheric River Winter Storm emergency projects, and take related actions

Recommended Action

Ratify award and execution of Contract No. 24D0988 with Gordon N. Ball, Inc. in the amount of \$1,500,000 for emergency repair construction services.

Executive Summary

Ratify contract with Gordon N. Ball, Inc. for the 2022-23 Atmospheric River Winter Storm emergency projects. The contract term is September 1, 2023 through February 28, 2024, or project completion, whichever is later and the contract was executed on February 12, 2025.

Discussion

2022-23 Atmospheric River Winter Storm events (FHWA CA2023-1 & FEMA DR-4683-CA) caused significant damage to County infrastructure, most notably to roadways across the County. The County declared this storm event a local disaster on January 3, 2023, the State made an emergency proclamation on January 4, 2023, and on January 14, 2023, the President declared the event a Major Disaster. During these storms, County infrastructure was damaged or destroyed and presented a threat to the safety of the public requiring immediate action to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, and essential public services.

On April 25, 2023, the Board directed Community Development and Infrastructure (CDI) to return on or before June 27, 2023, with Independent Contractor Agreements (ICA) associated with the projects from the declared storm event. On June 27, 2023, CDI requested additional time to gather necessary documents for the ICAs.

Contract No. 24D0988 was for emergency repair construction services related to the Redwood Lodge PM 1.80 Storm Damage Repair Project.

Executing the contracts and finalizing the costs will allow for reimbursement to proceed for the FHWA project. The project was only partially completed due to cash flow constraints due to delays in federal reimbursements. A separate competitively bid project will be necessary to complete the full project scope and receive funding from FHWA.

The tasks completed with this contract include:

- Clearing & Grubbing and Tree removal
- Some roadway excavation/of haul
- Excavation/Grading/Access to the streambed
- Bridge & abutment removal

- Pipe/Culvert/Headwall removal
- Initial design of the prefab bridge, bridge railing
- Associated dewatering/stream diversion/water pollution control/environmental measures

Remaining tasks that will require a separate competitively bid project:

- Construct new bridge support end piers
- Construct new retaining wall systems; soil nail walls, geosynthetic reinforced soil, and conventional retaining walls
- Place new Rock Slope Protection
- Install new pre-engineered bridge and bridge railing
- Reconstruct roadway, place roadway drainage and crash cushions

The Redwood Lodge PM 1.80 project was first reported to the Board on October 3, 2023.

Financial Impact

The total direct cost of the contract associated with this board item is approximately \$1,500,000 and will be financed by debt, future federal and state reimbursements, local county transportation funds and/or reductions in current transportation projects or operations.

Eligible costs will be reimbursed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) at a maximum of 88.53 percent for federal roads.

Public Works staff estimate that the total reimbursement from all agencies could be \$1,327,950. This assumes recovery of approximately 89 percent of the costs paid upfront by the County. Any disallowed costs, plus a local match of \$172,050 and costs already deemed ineligible of \$180,000 will be paid by local transportation funds, debt-financed, and/or reductions in current transportation projects or operations.

Strategic Initiatives

Equity Framework - County Facilities & Infrastructure
Operational Plan - Reliable Transportation

Submitted By:

Matt Machado, Deputy CAO / Director of Community Development and Infrastructure

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.