



## **CITY OF MENIFEE**

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SUBJECT: Recycled Water Accelerated Retrofit Program at La Ladera Park Project Bid Rejection

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2022

TO: Mayor and City Council

PREPARED BY: Nancy Rodriguez, Management Analyst

REVIEWED BY: Jonathan Nicks, Community Services Director

APPROVED BY: Armando G. Villa, City Manager

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

1. Reject all bids submitted for the Recycled Water Accelerated Retrofit Program at La Ladera Park, Capital Improvement Project No. CIP 23-11.

### **DISCUSSION**

On February 2, 2022, the City Council authorized the City's participation in the Eastern Municipal Water District's (EMWD) Recycled Water Accelerated Retrofit Program for La Ladera Park. The park is eight acres, making it the largest park the City maintains on potable water. Participation in EMWD's program would allow the retrofitting of La Ladera Park from potable water to recycled water. Switching the landscape to be irrigated by recycled water would allow for the conservation of drinkable water while creating an overall cost savings due to recycled water being one-third of the cost of potable water.

On August 11, 2022, staff solicited bids for the construction of the Recycled Water Accelerated Retrofit Project through PlanetBids. The work would consist of switching the parks point of connection to its irrigation system to be watered with recycled water, removal of 32,000 square feet of turf from the park to allow for the conversion into a point-to-point irrigation system and replanting of like plant material.

The construction bid was advertised for two weeks with a closing date of August 26, 2022. The City received a total of three bids summarized in Table 1 on the following page.

**Table 1 – Bid Results Summary**

Bidders	Total Bid
Kormex Construction Inc. (Bid withdrawn)	\$159,960
Marina Landscape Inc.	\$243,490
Southern California Landscape, Inc.	\$260,560

The project's construction cost was originally estimated at \$97,000 based on costs from completed projects of a similar scope. Given higher than expected construction costs in the bid responses and using the lowest bid amount, not withdrawn, an additional \$146,490 would be required to move forward with the project.

Public Contract Code §20166 allows a legislative body in its discretion to reject any bids and readvertise. In an effort to accommodate the project's current available funding, it is recommended that the City reject the submitted bids, and re-bid the project.

After further review, staff identified items listed on the bid documents that if adjusted, have the potential to significantly lower the cost of the project. The bid adjustments include clarifying the amount and areas of turf removal and that the service meter and certain equipment would be provided by EMWD and not purchased by the contractor. To mitigate the potential for similar bid results, staff would make modifications to the project plans. By re-bidding the project using the revised plans, staff is hopeful that the City would be able to obtain bids more in line with the approved budget for the project.

Re-bidding the project would not hinder the City's ability to meet the completion schedule. Upon completion of the re-bidding process, staff would present a recommendation for award. Below is a tentative schedule reflecting the changes to the re-bid date:

Anticipated Construction Start Date: October 10, 2022  
Estimated Council Acceptance Date: December 7, 2022  
Estimated Construction Completion Date: February 2023\*  
\*Assumes no delays due to weather or unforeseen conditions.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE**

Livable and Economically Prosperous Community

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Location Map