

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

March 20, 2025

Agenda Item 6.b.

San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Subject:

Authorization to Enter into a Contract with Corcus Construction for Construction of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee in the City of Palo Alto in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,764,140.00, Plus a Contingency of \$552,828.00, and Adoption of a Resolution Delegating Authority to Exercise Discretionary Approval of Designs Pursuant to Government Code Section 830.6 for the Project

Background:

The Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Pilot (PAHLP) project is a novel and innovative pilot project that links nature-based solutions to achieve habitat improvement, public access, flood protection and water quality improvement.

The San Francisco Bay has over two centuries of habitat loss and ecological degradation due to human activity. It is well established that the impact of these activities has modified important natural processes including freshwater flows, tidal exchanges, and the abundance of native species in some areas. These losses have led to fragmentation of habitats with reduced wildlife populations and systems that lack resilience to changing conditions. Meanwhile, the importance of restoration projects that achieve multiple objectives while repairing these natural processes is also well demonstrated. The project is expected to:

- Improve habitat along the perimeter of Harbor Marsh in Palo Alto for native species;
- Restore rare and historic broad ecotone that supports a variety of native plant assemblages;
- Determine design standards, permitting requirements, and extent of maintenance for incorporation into the future larger levee improvement project (i.e. SAFER Bay/Shoreline Study)
- Adapt to sea level rise by providing a transitional slope that will support freshwater plants, which in turn build organic soils, all of which is aimed at keeping pace with sea level rise
- Ensure community perspectives are incorporated into social infrastructure and educational components;
- Provide polishing treatment to discharged wastewater treatment.

Contractor Selection Process

On January 9, 2025, ABAG issued an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project. On January 30, 2025, ABAG held a mandatory bidders conference, during which staff and consultants provided project information, led a site tour, and answered questions.

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Section G of Part 1 of the IFB states that “A contract, if awarded, will be to the responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid...” ,

On March 4, 2025, four bids were received and opened at the public bid opening and is presented in the following table:

Ranking	Bidder	Location	Total Contract Price
1	Corcus Construction	San Francisco, CA	\$2,764,140.00
2	Brannon Corporation	Morgan Hill, CA	\$3,468,309.00
3	Interstate Grade Ampersand Paving, Inc,	South San Francisco, CA	\$3,931,861.00
4	Goodfellow Brothers. California, LLC	Livermore, CA	\$4,060,792.00

The engineers' estimate for the contract is \$2,255,721. The bid is approximately 23% higher than the engineers estimate. Staff reviewed the Corcus Construction bid to confirm that it is both a responsible and responsive bid based on a review of all bid forms received as part of the bid, including its bid security bond, minimum insurance requirement certification and reference information from past projects. In addition, staff met with the Project team’s construction management consultant (Zoon Engineering) and the design consultant (ESA and HDR) to discuss the bid analysis. The consultant teams are of the opinion that the bid is not unbalanced and recommend staff move forward with the award.

Corcus Construction will provide construction services to SFEP/ABAG for the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee, including construction contract administration, permit compliance, construction engineering, inspection and project close-out activities.

Staff further requests that the Executive Board approve ABAG Resolution 6-2025, which delegates authority to exercise discretionary approval of designs and design changes pursuant to Government Code Section 830.6 to the Section Director and Principal Program Manager of the Estuary Partnership for the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee project. Authorized staff would be delegated the authority to review and approve the reasonableness of the plans and any changes to the design and plans in the future.

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Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

The Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or his designee, to authorize entering into a contract with Corcus Construction for construction of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee in the City of Palo Alto in an amount not to exceed \$2,764,140, plus a contingency of \$522,828, and to adopt ABAG Resolution No. 6-2025, delegating authority to exercise approval of designs pursuant to Government Code Section 830.6.

Attachments:

- A. Summary Approval
- B. Contractor Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status
 - Resolution 6-2025 Delegating Authority to Exercise Discretionary Approval of Designs Pursuant to Government Code Section 830.6

Reviewed:



Andrew Fremier