

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Regional Network Management Committee

February 13, 2025

Agenda Item 2c

Contract - Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment: Alta Planning and Design, Inc. (\$404,321)

Subject:

Request for approval of a contract for the Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment with Alta Planning & Design, Inc. (Alta) in an amount not to exceed \$404,321.

Background:

In 1987, Senate Bill 100 (Lockyer) mandated that ABAG develop and adopt a plan and implementation program, including a financing plan, for a continuous, nonmotorized recreational corridor extending around the perimeter of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays: The San Francisco Bay Trail. The ultimate vision for the Bay Trail is a continuous, 500-mile trail around San Francisco and San Pablo Bays serving 47 cities in all nine Bay Area counties. As of 2022, 352 miles (70%) of the 500-mile vision have been constructed. The Bay Trail welcomes a variety of users including people who walk, bike and roll. It is intended to be used for many purposes including recreation, commuting to work and school, running errands, accessing transit, and visiting friends and family. The goal of the trail is to foster active transportation, healthy communities, environmental stewardship and education, and equitable public shoreline access for all Bay Area residents and visitors.

Through engagement with local agency partners and community during the Bay Trail Equity Strategy and the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan project processes it was confirmed that access, amenities and maintenance are key contributors to use and enjoyment of the Bay Trail. There is a need for an assessment to better understand the current conditions, amenities and access to the Bay Trail and to provide guidance on operations and maintenance best practices to ensure the Bay Trail is accessible, safe and welcoming to all.

The purpose of the Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment is to define needed access improvements and amenities and develop maintenance recommendations for the Bay Trail. The Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment will incorporate recommendations and take-aways from the Bay Trail Equity Strategy and the Bay Trail Gap

Closure Implementation Plan. The Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment is the last in a series of studies updating the foundational planning for the Bay Trail.

Through this procurement, MTC seeks to hire a consultant to develop a Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment for the Bay Trail. The purpose of the Assessment project is to:

- Identify access and lack of access to the Bay Trail, with a particular focus on Equity Priority Communities;
- Identify existing amenities and lack of amenities, with a particular focus on Equity Priority Communities;
- Identify maintenance needs and maintenance best practices for the Bay Trail; and
- Identify mechanisms to operationalize improved access to, amenities along, and maintenance of the Bay Trail.

Procurement Process:

On July 11, 2024, MTC issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Bay Trail Need, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment. A notice was sent via ConstantContact to 5,390 firms identified as potential sources. 65 firms downloaded the procurement documents, and 12 firms attended the non-mandatory proposer's conference. On August 14, 2024, MTC received proposals from three teams: Alta Planning + Design, Inc. (Alta), Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC (WRT), and Fehr & Peers Inc.

A panel consisting of staff from MTC and the California State Coastal Conservancy evaluated the proposals based on qualifications/team experience, project understanding/approach, presentation, cost effectiveness, price, and Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program. The evaluation panel created a short list of the top two scoring firms, Alta and WRT, entered into the Discussion and Best and Final Offer (BAFO) process where the panel reevaluated the firms, and determined that WRT scored in the first place with a score of 90.7 and Alta was a close second place with a score of 88.62.

On January 1, 2025, MTC entered a \$500,000 contract with WRT, to deliver the Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment after WRT was selected as the winning proposer through the procurement process. The contract award was approved by the MTC Planning Committee on December 13, 2024, and work kicked off in early 2025.

During the performance of the contract, MTC encountered performance issues with WRT that caused the project to fall behind schedule and negatively impacted the project budget. A decision was then made to terminate the Agreement, and on June 23, 2025, a stop work order was issued. A Notice of Termination was delivered on July 16, 2025, formally terminating the Agreement with WRT.

MTC still requires the services of a professional consultant firm to continue to deliver this project and assist with Bay Trail data collection, analysis and visualization as well as maintenance best practice research and guidance. MTC recommends selecting Alta from the 2021 Transportation Engineering and Planning Bench – Cycle 1 from service Category D: Active Transportation and Engineering to perform the Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment. Alta participated in the same original competitive procurement process as WRT, where WRT scored 90.17 and Alta was a close second place with a score of 88.62. To date, they have been a key partner in shaping Bay Trail data collection and analysis through their work on the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan and Regional Trail GIS Maintenance.

Issues:

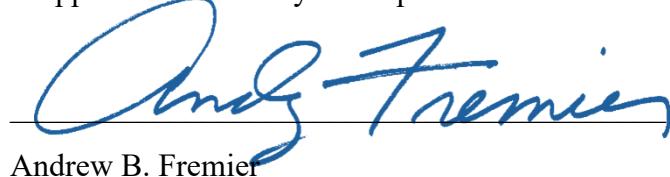
None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff requests that the Regional Network Management Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a contract with Alta Planning & Design, Inc. (Alta) in an amount not to exceed \$404,321 for the above-described work.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Small Business Enterprise Status
- Attachment B: Request for Committee Approval – Summary of Proposed Contract



Andrew B. Fremier

Small Business Enterprise Status

	Firm Name	Role on Project	SBE** Yes / No	If SBE Yes, List #
Prime Contractor	Alta Planning & Design	Project Management, Trail Planning, Landscape Architecture, GIS Analysis, Operations Support	No	
Subcontractor	Mariposa Planning Solutions	Community Engagement Support	Yes	49323

Footnote:

*Denotes certification by the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP).

**Denotes certification by the State of California.

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Contract Amendment

Work Item No.: 1127

Consultant: Alta Planning & Design, Inc. (Alta)
Oakland, CA

Work Project Title: Contract - Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment

Purpose of Project: Define needed access improvements and amenities and develop maintenance guidance for the Bay Trail by incorporating recommendations and take-aways from the Bay Trail Equity Strategy and the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan.

Brief Scope of Work: Identify access and lack of access to the Bay Trail, with a particular focus on Equity Priority Communities; Identify existing amenities and lack of amenities, with a particular focus on Equity Priority Communities; Identify maintenance needs and maintenance best practices for the Bay Trail; and Identify mechanisms to operationalize improved access to, amenities along, and maintenance of the Bay Trail.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$404,321

Funding Source: One Bay Area Grant (OBAG 3) Surface Transportation Block Grant program (STBG)

Fiscal Impact: The funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 – 26 MTC Budget

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with Alta Planning & Design, Inc. (Alta) to create a Bay Trail Needs, Operations, and Maintenance Assessment document as described above described above and in the Regional Network Management Committee Summary Sheet dated February 13, 2026 and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside \$404,321 for such contract.

MTC Planning Committee:

Candace Andersen, Chair

Approved: February 13, 2026