

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

April 18, 2024

Agenda Item 5.c.

Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)

Subject:

Authorization to negotiate and enter into a contract amendment with DiLytics Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$435,000 to provide database development and operations and maintenance services for the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) through December 31, 2025

Background:

Since 2013, BayREN has implemented a portfolio of energy efficiency programs across the region. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) serves as the program administrator and lead agency for a 10-member unincorporated association of local government entities.

On July 3, 2023, the California Public Utilities commission issued Decision 23-06-055 which, among other things, approved BayREN's 2024-2031 Business Plan, and authorized BayREN to continue its six existing, successful programs, and launch for new programs to fill gaps in energy efficiency services, pilot innovative programs, and serve hard-to-reach (HTR) customers. A summary of the existing and new programs is listed below:

Sector	Program	Status
Residential	Single Family (Home+)	Operational since 2013
Residential	Multifamily	Operational since 2013
Cross-Cutting	Water Upgrades Save	Operational since 2013
Codes & Standards	Codes & Standards	Operational since 2013
Residential	Green Labeling	Operational since 2018
Commercial	BayREN Business	Relaunched in 2023
Workforce	Climate Careers	Operational since 2024
Commercial	BayREN Business Refrigerant Replacement	Expected to launch in 2024
Public	Integrated Energy Services	Expected to launch in 2024
Public	Targeted Decarbonization Services	Expected to launch in 2024

Each program has a designated Program Manager who maintains a separate database housing their program's data. The Program Managers are both internal and external staff. These isolated program datasets currently require manual, time-intensive processes to display the impacts of multiple programs. This leads to several challenges including heavy administrative burden on individual Program Managers, sub-optimal quality and consistency of reported data, and lack of "scalable" reporting options that clearly identify program impacts at varying levels of granularity.

In February 2023, given these challenges, and the anticipated growth of programs and datasets, staff released a Request for Qualifications seeking to identify firms to create a Data Aggregation and Reporting Tool (DART) to automatically interact with the existing databases to retrieve data on a predetermined frequency, transform the data into common metrics, and consolidate data from multiple programs into customizable reports.

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On July 1, 2023, as a result of the RFQ and proposer evaluations, ABAG entered a contract with DiLytics Inc. (DiLytics) to perform discovery; make recommendations for technology solutions; develop the DART; and, provide ongoing support for operations and maintenance. The initial contract scope of work focused on establishing data analytics for six existing programs and spanned twelve months with ABAG's option to extend for three (3) additional years.

As of March 2024, there is a high probability of completing the project within the initial timeline and budget:

- All six initial program dashboards have been developed and demonstrated to Program Managers.
- A phased "go live" process is expected to begin in April, one month behind the initial schedule.
- As of January 31, 2024, 51% of the project budget has been expended.

Because the current contract term ends June 30, 2024, staff recommend a contract amendment to extend the term by eighteen (18) months, through December 31, 2025, and provide a budget increase of \$435,000 to provide operations and maintenance, development of dashboards for the remaining four programs, and funding for software licenses. This direction reflects exceptional performance of the consultant during the first nine months, a desire to leverage DiLytics' knowledge of the existing program data to obtain cost efficiencies, and ensure an ability to quickly implement feedback received to maximize the tool's usability and expansion.

Staff anticipate decreasing development and enhancements costs following calendar year 2024. Staff are also evaluating whether ABAG/MTC's Business Technology Services (BTS) team can provide any portion of the operations and maintenance services in future years, which would potentially result in cost savings. This approach will be assessed annually as renewal of the software licenses and contract term approaches.

Issues:

None

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Recommended Action:

The ABAG Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or his designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, to negotiate and enter into a contract amendment in an amount not to exceed \$435,000 with DiLytics Inc. to provide database development and operations and maintenance services for the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) through December 31, 2025.

Attachments:

- A. Summary Approval –DiLytics Inc.

Reviewed:



Andrew Fremier