



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2021-0780, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Directors, Sonoma County Water Agency  
**Department or Agency Name(s):** Sonoma County Water Agency  
**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Greg Guensch 547-1972  
**Vote Requirement:** Majority  
**Supervisory District(s):** Second

**Title:**

Lichau Creek Flood Mitigation Project Design

**Recommended Action:**

Authorize Sonoma County Water Agency's General Manager to execute an agreement with Prunuske Chatham, Inc. for engineering design services through December 31, 2024, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$294,520 in a form approved by County Counsel. (Second District)

**Executive Summary:**

Under the proposed agreement, Prunuske Chatham, Inc. (Consultant) will prepare a 60 percent design for a detention basin at Coyote Family Farms, located along Lichau Road. The property is situated on the watershed divide between Copeland Creek and Roberts Creek, a tributary to Lichau Creek, which is located within the broader Petaluma River watershed. The goal of the detention basin is to reduce flooding in Penngrove, Petaluma, and Rohnert Park. The primary objective of the detention basin is to capture Copeland Creek breakout flows that flow through Coyote Family Farms, a portion of which historically have escaped the Copeland Creek watershed and flowed into the Roberts Creek watershed. A secondary objective is to capture a portion of peak flows from Roberts Creek in the same detention basin if additional capacity is available. Additional objectives include increasing groundwater recharge and maintaining or enhancing wetland habitats.

**Discussion:**

**HISTORY OF ITEM/BACKGROUND**

Flood Control Zone 2A encompasses the Petaluma River watershed, upstream of the Ellis Creek confluence. Among Zone 2A objectives are efforts to reduce flooding, identify groundwater recharge opportunities, and provide instream habitat value within the Petaluma River Watershed. This includes exploring the feasibility and effectiveness of instream modifications and floodplain storage projects within the Lichau Creek watershed to reduce flood elevations and impacts within the City of Petaluma and the surrounding unincorporated areas, including the town of Penngrove.

Sonoma County Water Agency's (Sonoma Water) Stormwater Management-Groundwater Recharge program (formed in 2010) in the Upper Petaluma River Watershed is continually looking for opportunities and appropriately located sites to develop projects that reduce flooding, while possibly recharging groundwater aquifers or providing other benefits in downstream communities in the Petaluma River watershed.

In support of these efforts, Sonoma Water contracted with Prunuske Chatham, Inc. in 2016 to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of stream modification and storage projects that may reduce flooding in the lower reaches of Lichau Creek near Penngrove, including evaluating the feasibility of a detention basin located on a property owned by Coyote Family Farm. The feasibility study provided insight into the level of effort and actions needed to provide flood control. Planning-level construction cost estimates were developed for several of the key alternatives that were shown to provide valuable levels of flood risk reduction.

Portions of Penngrove currently experience some level of flooding on nearly an annual basis, including residential and business areas suffering damage during large flood events. Large storms on December 31, 2005, and on January 8, 2017, caused breakout flows from Copeland Creek (located in the Laguna De Santa Rosa Watershed - Flood Control Zone 1A) that contributed in part to flooding of homes and businesses within the Petaluma River Watershed (Flood Control Zone 2A). These events led to an effort by community organizations to address the issue as well as Sonoma Water's interest in flood mitigation alternatives for this area.

#### SELECTION PROCESS

On May 17, 2019, Sonoma Water issued a Request for Statements of Qualifications to 36 firms. The Request for Statements of Qualifications was also posted on the Sonoma County Water Agency and County of Sonoma Purchasing Department websites. The 22 firms listed below submitted Statements of Qualifications and were added to a list of qualified consultants after evaluation.

1. ADKO Engineering, Inc., Roseville, CA
2. Allana Buick & Bers, Inc., Palo Alto, CA
3. BC Engineering Group, Santa Rosa, CA
4. Bellecci & Associates, Concord, CA
5. Beyaz & Patel, Inc., San Diego, CA
6. BKF Engineers, Santa Rosa, CA
7. Brelje & Race Consulting Engineers, Santa Rosa, CA
8. CSW/Struber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc., Petaluma, CA
9. ERM-West, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA
10. GEI Consultants, Rancho Cordova, CA
11. HDR Engineering, Inc., Folsom, CA
12. InfraTerra, Inc., San Francisco, CA
13. LEE & RO, Inc., City of Industry, CA
14. Mott MacDonald, San Ramon, CA
15. Prunuske Chatham, Inc., Sebastopol, CA
16. Questa Engineering Corporation, Petaluma, CA
17. Schaaf & Wheeler Consulting Civil Engineers, Santa Rosa, CA
18. Summit Engineering, Inc., Santa Rosa, CA
19. TJC and Associates, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA
20. Watercourse Engineering, Inc., Davis, CA
21. Woodard & Curran, Walnut Creek, CA
22. ZFA Structural Engineers, Santa Rosa, CA

The following criteria were used to evaluate each firm:

- Thoroughness of Statements of Qualifications.
- Professional qualifications and demonstrated ability to perform the work.
- Exceptions to standard terms in the sample agreement.

Consultant was selected from the list above based on their qualifications and familiarity with the project site and parameters after completing related feasibility studies for Sonoma Water and other entities.

Sonoma Water may seek to amend or enter into subsequent agreement(s) with future Board approval if required, relying upon this competitive selection process, after the preliminary or initial work is completed for the project.

#### SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED

Under the proposed agreement, Consultant will:

1. Conduct site assessments and field studies,
2. Support Sonoma Water staff with stakeholder outreach,
3. Assess CEQA and permitting requirements,
4. Develop project design, plans, construction cost estimates and specifications to the 60% level, and
5. Provide grant application support.

Pending successful public and stakeholder outreach efforts, provided for in the Agreement, and successful procurement of future implementation grant funding, a future amendment to this agreement will be brought to the Board for approval to provide for the completed design, environmental permitting, assistance with CEQA compliance, and construction support services.

The cost of services will not exceed \$294,520; the term end date is December 31, 2024. Costs for the agreement will be shared between Flood Control Zones 1A and 2A.

#### Prior Board Actions:

01/13/2015: Approved agreement between Sonoma Water and Prunuske Chatham for flood mitigation modeling and feasibility study agreement. Cost \$195,165; term end 12/31/2015.

#### FISCAL SUMMARY

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY 21-22 Adopted</b>	<b>FY22-23 Projected</b>	<b>FY 23-24 Projected</b>
Budgeted Expenses	\$294,520		
Additional Appropriation Requested			
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$294,520</b>		
<b>Funding Sources</b>			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			
Fees/Other	\$294,520		
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$294,520</b>		

**Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:**

Budgeted amount of \$294,520 is available from FY2021/2022 appropriations for the Flood Control Zone 1A Fund and 2A Fund. Costs for the agreement will be shared equally between Flood Control Zones 1A and 2A. No additional appropriation is required.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

**Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):**

N/A

**Attachments:**

Map

**Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:**

None