

**CITY OF COOS BAY  
JOINT CITY COUNCIL / URA WORK SESSION  
Agenda Staff Report**

<b>MEETING DATE</b> April 25, 2017	<b>AGENDA ITEM NUMBER</b>
---------------------------------------	---------------------------

TO: Mayor Benetti and City Councilors

FROM: Jim Hossley, Public Works and Community Development Director

THROUGH: Rodger Craddock, City Manager

ISSUE: Request for Proposal for Wastewater Plant 1 Facility Planning - Recommended Consultant

**SUMMARY:**

A recommendation committee was formed to evaluate the statement of qualifications (SOQ) that was received for the request for qualifications (RFQ) for Facility Planning services for Plant 1. The recommendation Committee is comprised of Councilor Farmer, Councilor Marler, Jim Hossley, Jennifer Wirsing, Ivan Thomas (General Manger for Coos Bay North Bend Water Board), and Steve Major (The Dyer Partnership). One SOQ was received from CH2M. The recommendation committee interviewed CH2M on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Based on the quality of the SOQ, the experience of the firm and the proposed design team, the committee is comfortable to recommend to council to direct staff to begin negotiations of a scope and fee with CH2M for this effort. It is also recommended that a work session be held with the consultant and Council to understand what type of options Council wishes to explore during the facility planning effort.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Direct staff to begin negotiations of a scope and fee with CH2M. Upon completion of this effort, the scope and fee will be brought back to council for review and comment and/or approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

Plant 1 was originally constructed in 1954 as a primary treatment plant. Secondary treatment was added in 1973 and the plant was extensively upgraded in 1990. It is anticipated that a plant will need an upgrade every 20 years. The plant is past its 20-year cycle and showing signs of age. Each year, operations and maintenance costs for the plant increase. A Facility Plan (FP) for Plant 1's upgrade was prepared by West Yost and was originally submitted in 2007 to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). After several DEQ reviews, the report was finalized in 2011. According to DEQ, if a FP is older than 10 years a new FP must be prepared. However, if the FP is between 5 and 10 years then the jurisdiction can submit a report called a Facility Plan Amendment (FPA).

In February, Council directed staff to advertise an RFP for Facility Planning services for Plant 1. The City received one SOQ from CH2M. There are several potential reasons why the City did not receive more submittals. One reason is due to the anaerobic digesters that Plant 1 has. There are

limited consultants that have experience with designing upgrading this type of digester. Another reason is the financial climate. There are numerous projects ongoing throughout the state of Oregon and consultants are very busy. Lastly, there could be some negative outfall from the process that occurred during the Plant 2 design phase. However, with that said, while it would have been desirable to receive SOQs from additional firms, CH2M has proven past success on the Plant 2 Expansion and Upgrade project. CH2M is a qualified firm with extensive experience in wastewater. Also, CH2M has put together a team that has many years of experience working together. Because CH2M is in tune to the needs of the City, they also proposed two additional subconsultants. One being a financial consultant that can provide Council with potential rate impacts for the various options that will be analyzed. The other subconsultant is a person with over 20 years of operational experience. This consultant is not affiliated with CH2M and would bring a fresh set of eyes and experience to the project with an operational slant.

If selected, CH2M has proposed to set up a meeting with DEQ to discuss the design requirements that will be placed on the Plant 1 upgrade. They have proposed to do this as part of their preparation of scope and fee and the City will not be charged. This idea is very appealing to staff since it is unclear if DEQ will allow the plant to blend flows when the Plant receives a high volume of inflow and infiltration (currently the plant blends flows). If this is not allowed for the upgrade, it will affect how the facility plan is prepared. Additionally, DEQ may require analysis of the plant's outfall and mixing zone. It is proposed to discuss this at the meeting as well. Finally, due to the age of the original Facility Plan, it is unclear if DEQ will allow an amendment or require a new Facility Plan to be prepared in accordance with DEQ's new guidelines. If an amendment is allowed it will significantly reduce the scope and fee.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

At this time, none.