



- **Board of Directors**
Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee

5/13/2025 Board Meeting

7-3

Subject

Authorize on-call agreements with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each to support engineering planning for water system resiliency and energy planning projects; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

A series of technical studies and investigations are currently being planned to focus on the subjects of maintaining future water system resilience and enhancing energy sustainability. Staff's strategy for managing planning-phase studies is to rely on in-house engineering staff to accomplish the base load of work, while professional services agreements are selectively utilized to handle work above this base load or where specialized services are required. This action authorizes three new professional services agreements, with maximum amounts of \$1 million each, to support engineering planning studies for water system resiliency and energy projects. See **Attachment 1** for the List of Subconsultants.

Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

Staff Recommendation: Option #1

Option #1

Authorize on-call agreements with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each for engineering planning services.

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$3,000,000 from Engineering Services Group's board-approved operations and maintenance budget for fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26.

Business Analysis: Contracting with multiple firms provides a flexible and efficient means for Metropolitan to obtain needed technical services and complete planned initiatives per board-adopted schedules.

Option #2

Do not authorize the consulting agreements at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: Under this option, Metropolitan staff would perform the engineering planning activities or request board authorization for agreements on a project-specific basis. This option would forego an opportunity to reduce administrative costs or address urgent projects promptly.

Alternatives Considered

Staff initially considered using project-specific agreements instead of additional on-call agreements. Project-specific agreements are negotiated for an amount needed to cover a specific project, with agreements over \$250,000 requiring approval by the Board. The current approach of utilizing multiple on-call agreements is recommended to ensure that staff can efficiently execute the planned work over the upcoming biennium. On-call

agreements allow staff to streamline administrative procedures, reduce costs, and enable requested studies and planning activities to move forward without delay.

Applicable Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 8121: General Authority of the General Manager to Enter Contracts

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)

Not applicable

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it involves only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the Board has not approved, adopted, or funded. (Public Resources Code Section 21080.21; State CEQA Guidelines Section 15262.)

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Details and Background

Background

The exposure of Metropolitan's water and energy systems to climate variability has prompted the integration of resilience and sustainability goals into its long-term planning efforts. Promoting sustainable practices in water management helps ensure the availability of safe, clean, and sufficient water to meet current and future needs while minimizing negative environmental and social impacts. Several studies are necessary to support Metropolitan's long-term planning efforts to achieve these sustainability and resilience goals.

These studies include identifying potential risks and vulnerabilities to Metropolitan water and energy systems and developing and prioritizing mitigation measures. Potential studies may include investing in new water technologies and modernizing water treatment plants, interconnection, or pump stations. Similarly, integrating resilience and sustainability into energy projects may include exploring options to diversify power resources or develop energy storage systems and microgrids.

Agreements for Engineering Planning Services – Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc.

Request for Qualification (RFQ) No. 1381 was issued in August 2024 to establish a pool of qualified firms to support planning-phase studies related to water and power facilities. Planning services under the RFQ were divided into two categories: Category 1 – Vulnerability, Reliability, and Resilience Assessments, and Category 2 – Sustainability Initiatives and Renewable Power Strategic Development. Respondents were allowed to provide qualifications for one or both categories. Services to be provided under the resulting agreements were identified in the RFQ. Category 1 services include conducting vulnerability, reliability, and risk assessments, developing strategies to enhance system resilience, evaluating the cost-effectiveness of proposed measures, and assisting in emergency response planning. Category 2 services include conducting studies to support Metropolitan in advancing sustainability initiatives related to water supply, water quality, and power.


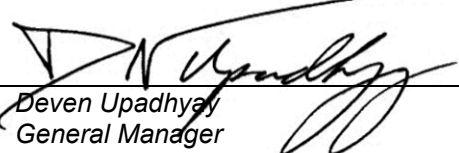
Consultants submitted Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) for one or both categories. Twelve firms submitted SOQs, which were then evaluated based on qualifications, key personnel, experience related to planned studies, past performance, and business outreach. Through this process, all 12 firms were prequalified to provide services under one or both of the above categories and will be eligible for project-specific agreements within the categories of work for which they were prequalified.

New on-call agreements are recommended to be awarded at this time to three prequalified firms based on staff's current assessment of technical resources needed for studies planned over the next several years. New agreements are recommended with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. These firms were selected through the evaluation process described above.

This action authorizes on-call agreements with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1 million each per contract. The maximum duration of the agreements will be three years. Staff will return to the Board in the future to authorize additional agreements if a need for such work is identified. For each agreement, Metropolitan has established a Small Business Enterprise participation level of 25 percent of the amount of the agreement. All three firms have committed to meeting this level of participation.

Summary

This action authorizes three on-call agreements for engineering planning services with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in an amount not exceeding \$1 million each per contract for a maximum duration of three years.

	4/22/2025
Mai M. Hattar	Date
Interim Chief Engineer	
Engineering Services	
	4/22/2025
Deven Upadhyay	Date
General Manager	

Attachment 1 – Listing of Subconsultants

Ref# es12704624

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Hazen and Sawyer

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Proteus Consulting LLP San Diego, CA	Water Supply Planning
ARUP Los Angeles, CA	Resilience, Risk Analysis, Sustainability and Energy
Yao Engineering Pasadena, CA	Power System Planning
V&A Consulting Engineers Inc. Oakland, CA	Corrosion
Optive Denver, CO	Cyber Security and Asset Inventory
Lettis Consultants International Inc. Valencia, CA	Seismic
GeoPentech Santa Ana, CA	Dams and Structures
ASK Energy Inc. Carlsbad, CA	Energy Planning and Condition Assessment
AESC Inc. Carlsbad, CA	Grid Interconnection and Utility Coordination
Mechanical Solutions Inc. Whippany, NJ	Solidworks FEA
WE3Lab Stanford, CA	Grid Modeling and Load Management
Rincon Consultants Inc. Los Angeles, CA	Water Supply/Resilience, Risk Analysis, Sustainability and Energy
Scott Foster Engineering Inc. La Cañada, CA	Hydraulics

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
DRP Engineering Inc. Monterey Park, CA	CAD Design Services, Conveyance Design
LEE & RO Inc. City of Industry, CA	Electrical Engineering Services
Trussel Technologies Inc. Pasadena, CA	Anthropogenic Hazards, Regulatory and Permitting

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Mott MacDonald Group Inc.

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Ascend Analytics Boulder, CO	Renewable Energy
Energy Experts International Redwood City, CA	Energy Supply and System Planning