



Engineering, Operations, & Technology Committee

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Item 7-3

October 7, 2024

Item 7-3
Diemer
Helicopter
Hydrant Facility

Subject

Award a \$448,000 contract to Heed Engineering to provide construction materials to support the construction of the helicopter hydrant facility at the Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant

Purpose

Expedites site preparation for Diemer helicopter hydrant facility

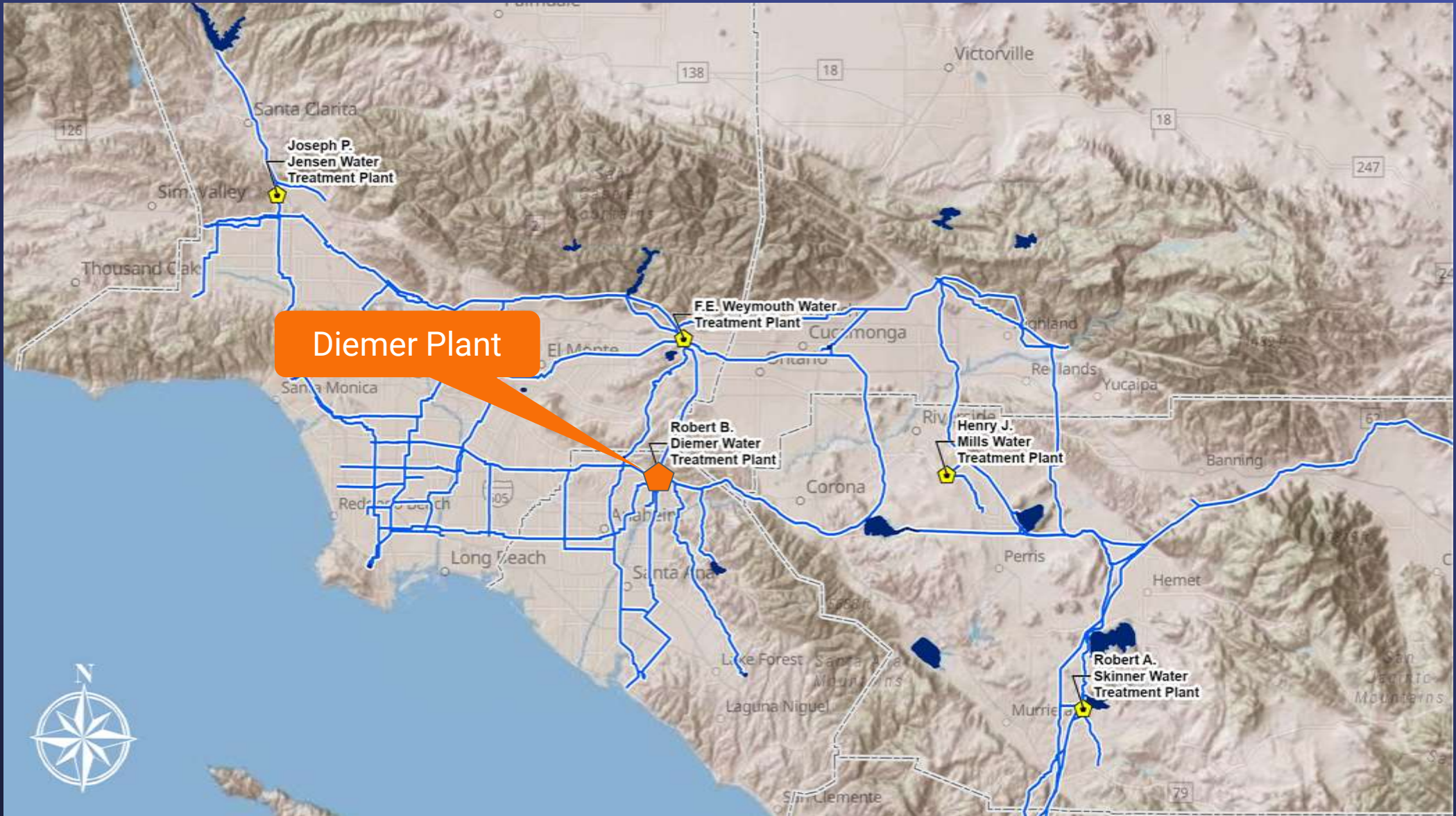
Recommendation

Award a contract

Budgeted

Partially funded by a \$500,000 grant from U.S. Forest Service

Location Map



Background – Wildfire History

- 2008 Freeway Complex Fire burned near the east, north & west side slopes of the plant
 - Diemer classified as high fire risk area by Orange County Fire Department
 - Metropolitan's response:
 - Retrofitted Diemer plant's control room
 - Enhanced coordination with local first-responders & Orange County Emergency Management agencies
 - Assessed new initiatives to enhance safety & fire control
- Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) constructed two helicopter hydrants in fire-prone locations



2008 Freeway Complex Fire



2022 Diemer Full-Scale Exercise

Background – Helicopter Hydrant Locations



Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility



Open-Top Water Tank
During Operation

Background

- Sept 2022 – U.S. Forest Service (USFS) awarded a \$500K grant to YLWD for construction of a new helicopter hydrant
- May 2023 – Board action authorized the Diemer helicopter hydrant facility project
- Nov 2023 – YLWD & Metropolitan signed MOU to jointly fund & construct a helicopter hydrant within the Diemer plant site
- March 2024 – MWD subrecipient of USFS grant

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Alternatives Considered

- Complete all construction work for the entire helicopter hydrant facility under a single construction contract
 - Extends schedule beyond USFS grant deadline
- Selected Alternative – Award a contract to provide construction materials
 - Metropolitan forces complete construction
 - Expedites construction
 - Utilizes USFS grant funding within current deadlines

Diemer
Helicopter
Hydrant
Facility

Project Scope of Work

- Contractor
 - Furnish aggregate base materials & concrete
 - Furnish & install reinforcing steel
- Metropolitan
 - Prepare site & place concrete foundation for hydrant tank
 - Procure remaining construction materials
 - Install helicopter hydrant tank
- YLWD
 - Provide grant funding to Metropolitan
 - Coordinate with USFS, Cal Fire & OCFA

Bid Results

Specifications No. 2142

Bids Received	August 29, 2024
No. of Bidders	4
Lowest Responsible Bidder	Heed Engineering
Lowest Qualified Bid	\$448,000
Range of Other Bids	\$543,400 to \$1,137,000
Engineer's Estimate	\$610,000
SBE Participation*	100%

*SBE (Small Business Enterprise) participation level set at 25%

Allocation of Funds

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Metropolitan Labor		
Owner Costs	\$	25,000
Construction Inspection & Support		15,000
Contracts		
Heed Engineering		448,000
Remaining Budget		12,000
	Total \$	500,000

Project Schedule



Board Options

- Option #1

Award a \$448,000 contract to Heed Engineering to provide construction materials and install reinforcing steel to support the construction of the helicopter hydrant facility at the Diemer plant.

- Option #2

Do not award the contract at this time.

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1

