



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

7/11/2023 Board Meeting

7-4

Subject

Award a \$349,527.80 procurement contract to TechnoFlo Systems Inc. for 50 magnetic flowmeters to comply with surface water diversion regulations on Metropolitan's Delta Island properties; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

Surface water is diverted for agricultural use on several islands that Metropolitan owns in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta. California Senate Bill 88 requires these surface diversions to be accurately measured. This action will award a \$349,527.80 procurement contract to purchase 50 magnetic flowmeters for the surface water diversion points on four Delta Island properties. Installation of this equipment, under a future contract, will bring Metropolitan into full compliance with surface water diversion measurement regulations.

Details

Background

In 2016, Metropolitan purchased five islands in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta (Delta). Metropolitan currently owns Bouldin Island, Bacon Island, Webb Tract, and a portion of Holland Tract. These islands are currently leased for agricultural use.

At numerous locations along the Delta Islands' perimeter, pipeline siphons divert water to the islands' interior for various uses. California Senate Bill 88 (CA SB-88) requires water rights holders who divert ten acre-feet of water per year or more under a permit or license to install and maintain a device or employ a method capable of measuring the rate of direct surface water diversion, rate of collection to storage, and rate of withdrawal or release from storage. As owner of the Delta properties, Metropolitan must comply with this regulation.

From 2016 through 2021, Metropolitan participated in a meter device experimentation phase of this project under the Office of the Delta Watermaster Consortium with other Delta water diverters. For five years, Metropolitan, the four local Reclamation Districts overseeing the Delta Islands, and the Office of the Delta Watermaster Consortium tested and experimented with various flow meters for accuracy and reliable measurements of flows within the gravity siphons. Through this work, it was determined that TechnoFlo Systems Inc. (TechnoFlo) is the only vendor that supplies the meters approved by the Office of the Delta Watermaster for accurate flow measurement under siphon gravity flow conditions. TechnoFlo's pricing includes free technical support, troubleshooting, and low-cost replacement parts.

Metropolitan received approval from the Office of the Delta Watermaster and is implementing a 5-year plan for a Phased Measurement Implementation (PPMI) to install flow measurement devices at unmeasured active diversion points on the Delta Island properties. Four phases have previously been completed under the PPMI, and approximately 38 flow meters have been installed. Phase 5, the project's final phase, will install an additional 50 flow meter devices on the remaining siphons on the Delta properties, bringing Metropolitan into full compliance with CA SB-88 regulations. The meters supplied by TechnoFlo under this board action for Phase 5 are the same type of meter that was installed under Phases 3 and 4 of the project.

Since only a single flow meter supplier is approved by the Office of the Delta Watermaster, a sole source procurement contract is recommended to be awarded to TechnoFlo. Metropolitan Administrative Code

Section 8140(1)d states the competitive bidding requirements may be waived if competitive procurement could not produce an advantage or it is impracticable to obtain what is required subject to the competitive procurement provisions because of the unique, exploratory, or experimental nature of the work. A sole source memorandum has been certified by the General Manager's designee for the contract and signed by Metropolitan Executive Management. Staff recommends proceeding with the meter procurement for Phase 5 at this time.

Budget Impact

In accordance with the April 2022 action on the biennial budget for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24, the General Manager authorized staff to proceed with Delta Infrastructure Phase 5 project, pending board approval of the contract described below. Based on the current Capital Investment Plan (CIP) expenditure forecast, funds for the work to be performed pursuant to this action during the current biennium are available within the CIP Appropriation for Fiscal Years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Appropriation No. 15525). This project anticipates an expenditure of \$516,000 in capital funds. All project expenditures will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized. This project has been reviewed in accordance with Metropolitan's CIP prioritization criteria and was approved by Metropolitan's CIP Evaluation Team to be included in the System Flexibility/Supply Reliability Program.

Delta Properties Infrastructure Improvements Phase 5 - Procurement

Planned activities include procurement of the new flow meters. Metropolitan staff will review submittals from the vendor and provide technical support, administer the procurement contract, and provide project management. Metropolitan staff will return to the Board at a later date to award a contract to install the flowmeters.

A total of \$516,000 has been budgeted for this work. In addition to the amount of the contract described below, other funds to be allocated include \$61,000 for contract administration, technical support, and project management; \$105,000 for procurement of flow meter telemetry (to be provided by separate vendor); and \$472.20 in remaining budget. **Attachment 1** provides the allocation of the required funds. The total estimated cost of the project, including the amount allocated to date and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is approximately \$900,000 to \$1.2 million.

Award of Procurement Contract (TechnoFlo)

This action awards a sole source procurement contract to TechnoFlo in the amount of \$349,527.80 to supply 50 flow meters. TechnoFlo is the only vendor that can supply the needed flow meters to comply with current surface water diversion regulations as approved by the Office of the Delta Watermaster. As a procurement contract, there are no subcontracting opportunities.

Alternatives Considered

Metropolitan worked with the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium (Consortium), the Reclamation Districts (RD), and RD Engineers in testing various alternative water measuring devices on Delta agricultural siphons on its four islands/tracts. Metropolitan tested various equipment, including different meter types, power sources, data loggers, water level and internal pressure sensors, telemetry communication devices, installation approaches, security/protection fencing, and maintenance techniques.

The equipment was tested for accuracy, ease of installation, operational compatibility, maintenance issues, power considerations, and other matters essential to the certification of each flow device. A total of 22 flow meters from nine different manufacturers were tested. TechnoFlo was the only meter supplier approved by the Office of the Delta Watermaster to meet the regulatory requirements of Senate Bill CA SB-88 for fixed meter installations. The recommended alternative will bring Metropolitan into compliance with the regulations.

Summary

This action awards a \$349,527.80 procurement contract to TechnoFlo for the procurement of 50 flow meters for the Delta Islands. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds and **Attachment 2** for the Location Map.

Project Milestone

October 2023 – Delivery of flow meters and components

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

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 8140(1)d: Sole Source Procurement

By Minute Item 52778, dated April 12, 2022, the Board appropriated a total of \$600 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. In particular, the proposed action consists of procurement and modification of existing public facilities consisting of the future installation of meters with negligible or no expansion of existing or former use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. Accordingly, this proposed action qualifies as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption (Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

CEQA determination for Option #1:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Award a \$349,527.80 procurement contract to TechnoFlo Systems Inc. for 50 flow meters to comply with surface water diversion regulations on Metropolitan's Delta Island properties.

Fiscal Impact: Expenditure of \$516,000 in capital funds. All expenditures will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized.

Business Analysis: This option is needed to meet current surface water diversion regulations.

Option #2

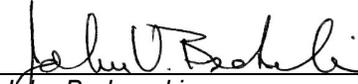
Do not proceed with the project at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: This option will forgo an opportunity to bring Metropolitan into compliance with current surface water diversion regulations.

Staff Recommendation

Option # 1

 <hr/> John Bednarski Manager/Chief Engineer Engineering Services	6/16/2023 Date
 <hr/> Adel Hagekhalil General Manager	6/27/2023 Date

Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds

Attachment 2 – Location Map

Allocation of Funds for Delta Properties Infrastructure Improvements

	Current Board Action (Jul. 2023)
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Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., contract admin.)	61,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	-
Construction Inspection & Support	-
Metropolitan Force Construction	-
Materials & Supplies	105,000
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	-
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	-
TechnoFlo Systems Inc.	349,527.80
Remaining Budget	472.20
Total	<u><u>\$ 516,000</u></u>

The total amount expended to date on the Delta Properties Infrastructure Improvements is approximately \$75,000. The total estimated cost to complete the installation of the meters, including the amount appropriated to date, funds allocated for the work described in this action, and future construction costs, is anticipated to range from \$900,000 to \$1.2 million.

Location Map

