



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

11/8/2022 Board Meeting

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**7-6**

**Subject**

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Award an \$820,852.53 procurement contract to Whipps, Inc. for three slide gates to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

**Executive Summary**

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The San Jacinto Diversion Structure controls flows from the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) into the Casa Loma Siphon First and Second Barrels and the San Jacinto Pipeline. The structure uses three slide gates to control these flows. Since their initial installation over 80 years ago, the gates have deteriorated and need to be replaced. This action awards a procurement contract for three new slide gate assemblies. This procurement contract award will ensure the timely fabrication and delivery of the slide gates for an upcoming installation contract.

**Details**

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**Background**

The San Jacinto Diversion Structure was constructed in 1939 as part of the CRA conveyance system. The diversion structure is located at the west portal of the San Jacinto Tunnel and controls flows into the Casa Loma Siphon First and Second Barrels and the San Jacinto Pipeline. Two slide gates (V-01 and V-02) control flows into the first barrel of the Casa Loma Siphon, which ultimately supplies CRA water to Lake Mathews. A third slide gate (V-03) controls flows into the San Jacinto Pipeline. Each of these cast iron gates is approximately 6 feet wide by 8 feet high.

A recent inspection revealed failing gate shafts and motor operators, as well as significant corrosion damage on the three slide gates, including corrosion of the gate leafs and guide rails. During the March 2019 CRA shutdown, the slide gate assembly for V-03 was removed from service because it could not be reliably operated. A temporary drop gate was installed further downstream to regulate flows into the San Jacinto Pipeline.

To allow for an improved ability to control flow, the new gates will have a robust design, including upgraded materials. Staff recommends moving forward with the procurement of three new slide gates and actuator assemblies to ensure their timely delivery for a subsequent installation contract. Staff will seek board authorization to award a construction contract in mid-2023 for installation of the three gates during a planned 2024 shutdown of the CRA.

In accordance with the April 2022 action on the biennial budget for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24, the General Manager will authorize staff to proceed with the procurement of three slide gates and appurtenances to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure, pending board award of the procurement contract described below. Based on the current Capital Investment Plan (CIP) expenditure forecast, funds for the work to be performed pursuant to the subject contracts during the current biennium are available within the Capital Investment Plan Appropriation for Fiscal Years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Appropriation No. 15525). 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 Distribution System Reliability Program.

### **San Jacinto Diversion Structure Slide Gate Rehabilitation – Procurement of Three Gates**

The scope of the procurement contract includes furnishing three stainless steel side gates, actuator arms, motors, associated fittings, and accessories.

A total of \$1,100,000 is required to perform this work. In addition to the amount of the contract, the allocated funds include \$79,000 for factory fabrication inspection and functional testing; \$5,000 for Metropolitan forces to receive, offload, and store the slide gates at Diamond Valley Lake; \$64,000 for submittals review, technical support, and responding to manufacturer requests for information; \$62,000 for contract administration and project management; and \$69,147.47 for remaining budget.

**Attachment 1** provides the allocation of required funds. The total estimated cost to complete rehabilitation of the slide gates at the San Jacinto Diversion Structure, including the amount appropriated to date, funds allocated for the work described in this action, and all future actions, is expected to range between \$2.5 million and \$3.0 million.

#### ***Award of Procurement Contract (Whipps, Inc.)***

Specifications No. 2028 for furnishing three stainless steel slide gates and fittings to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure was advertised for bids on August 17, 2022. As shown in **Attachment 2**, three bids were received and opened on October 6, 2022. Two of the bids were deemed to be non-responsive due to exceptions taken by the bidder. The bid from Whipps, Inc. in the amount of \$820,852.53 complies with the requirements of the specifications. This amount includes all sales and use taxes imposed by the State of California. The budgetary estimate for this material, based on a survey of vendors, ranged from \$500,000 to \$750,000. Staff attributes the higher-than-expected bid amount to increased costs for materials, labor, and transportation. Proceeding with a contract at this time will enable completion of the rehabilitation of the San Jacinto Diversion Structure with minimal operational impacts and will enable a future contractor to have the gates available for installation in the planned 2024 CRA shutdown. As a procurement contract, there are no subcontracting opportunities and no SBE participation level was established for this contract.

This action awards an \$820,852.53 procurement contract to Whipps, Inc. to furnish three stainless steel slide gates and appurtenances to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure.

#### **Alternatives Considered**

During the planning and design of this project, staff considered rehabilitating the existing three gates instead of replacement with new gates. This approach would replace components experiencing excessive wear, while refurbishing the gate leaf and frame. All three gates were previously refurbished in 2011, and a similar life span would be expected for a new refurbishment effort. The selected alternative to completely replace and upgrade the slide gate systems will provide significantly longer longevity for the overall control structure on the CRA when compared to the refurbishment approach. The recommended approach will provide new gates with a life span of approximately 80 years.

#### **Summary**

This action awards an \$820,852.53 procurement contract to Whipps, Inc. to furnish three slide gates and appurtenances to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds, **Attachment 2** for the Abstract of Bids, and **Attachment 3** for the Location Map.

#### ***Project Milestones***

December 2023 – Complete fabrication of slide gate assemblies

March 2024 – Complete installation of slide gates under a separate contract

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## Policy

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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: Competitive Procurement

By Minute Item 52778, dated April 14, 2022, the Board appropriated a total of \$600 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

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## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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### CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action involves operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. In addition, the proposed action includes the replacement and reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site and as the structure replaced and will have the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. Accordingly, the proposed action qualifies under Class 1 and Class 2 Categorical Exemptions (Sections 15301 and 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

### CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

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## Board Options

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### Option #1

Award an \$820,852.53 procurement contract to Whipps, Inc. to furnish three slide gates and appurtenances to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure.

**Fiscal Impact:** Expenditure of \$1,100,000 in capital funds. All costs will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized.

**Business Analysis:** This option will improve the operational reliability of the CRA delivery system.

### Option #2

Do not proceed with this project at this time.



**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** This option will forego an opportunity to improve the operational reliability of CRA, which may lead to costly urgent repairs.

**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

 John V. Bednarski Manager/Chief Engineer Engineering Services	10/24/2022 <i>Date</i>
 Adel Hagekhalil General Manager	10/26/2022 <i>Date</i>

**Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds****Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids****Attachment 3 – Location Map**

Ref# es12687407

### Allocation of Funds for San Jacinto Diversion Structure Slide Gate Rehabilitation

	<b>Current Board Action (Nov. 2022)</b>
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt.)	62,000
Support during construction & testing	-
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	64,000
Construction Inspection & Support	79,000
Force Construction	5,000
Materials & Supplies	-
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	-
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	
Whipps, Inc,	820,852.53
Remaining Budget	69,147.47
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1,100,000</u></b>

The total amount expended to date on the San Jacinto Diversion Structure Slide Gate Rehabilitation project is approximately \$325,000. The total estimated cost to complete this project, including the amount appropriated to date, funds allocated for the work described in this action, and all future actions, is expected to range between \$2.5 million and \$3.0 million.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Abstract of Bids Received on October 6, 2022 at 2:00 P.M.**  
**Specifications No. 2028**  
**San Jacinto Diversion Structure Slide Gate Rehabilitation**

The work consists of providing three slide gates and appurtenances to be installed as part of rehabilitation of the San Jacinto Diversion Structure project.

Estimated range of costs: \$500,000 – \$750,000

<b>Bidder and Location</b>	<b>Base Bid Price Total <sup>1</sup></b>
Hydro Gate Denver, CO	\$525,033 <sup>3</sup>
ISE Metal, Inc. Sherbrooke/Quebec, Canada	\$720,456 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Whipps, Inc.</b> <b>Athol, MA</b>	<b>\$820,852.53</b>

<sup>1</sup> As a procurement contract, there are no subcontracting opportunities.

<sup>2</sup> Includes sales and use taxes of 7.75 percent imposed by the state of California

<sup>3</sup> Non-responsive bid

