

RESOLUTION 2015-03

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH MERKEL & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION OF THE CHULA VISTA BAYFRONT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CHULA VISTA BAYFRONT MASTER PLAN SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Port District (District) is a public corporation created by the legislature in 1962 pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code Appendix 1, (Port Act); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Port Commissioners (BPC) adopted BPC Policy No. 110 to establish a policy governing the processing and administration of public projects, consulting and service agreements, the purchasing of supplies, materials, and equipment, and grants; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2010, the District entered into the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan Settlement Agreement (Settlement Agreement) that included the Bayfront Coalition (Coalition) to obtain their support for the Chula Vista Bayfront project in exchange for providing additional environmental protection measures requested by the Coalition; and

WHEREAS, sections 4.4.2 and 4.4.5 of the Settlement Agreement require the District to analyze restoration and enhancement alternatives for the former South Bay Power Plant intake and discharge channels and to investigate the restoration of the tidal connection between F & G Street marsh and seasonal wetlands; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Settlement Agreement requires the preparation of a Natural Resources Management Plan for the Chula Vista Bayfront, which is currently being drafted; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the requirements of the Settlement Agreement, the District solicited proposals from Service Providers to analyze restoration and enhancement alternatives for the former South Bay Power Plant intake and discharge channels and investigate the restoration of the tidal connection between F & G Street marsh and seasonal wetlands; and

WHEREAS, one of the guiding principles of the draft Chula Vista Bayfront Natural Resources Management Plan is for eco-system-based management with an objective to promote resilience to sea-level rise and other threats for the Bayfront and adjacent habitats through protecting, restoring, and enhancing marine, intertidal, salt marsh, and upland transition connections, where practicable; and

WHEREAS, additional services requested in the Request for Proposals included evaluating the entire Chula Vista Bayfront in a holistic manner, along with recommended restoration and enhancement options for connecting J Street Marsh with the adjacent uplands; naturalizing J Street Channel and Telegraph Creek; accommodating anticipated sea-level rise with recommendations for soft or natural infrastructure; providing habitat connectivity; a hydraulic analysis of water movement in South Bay; and enhancing mudflats, eelgrass and existing saltmarshes; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2014, electronic solicitation notifications were sent to 1,352 potential service providers; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2014, the District received proposals from three firms: Merkel & Associates, Inc. (Merkel), ICF International, and Tetra Tech, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the proposals were evaluated by a panel comprised of Port staff from Environmental and Land Use Management, Real Estate, Engineering and Construction, and Procurement, as well as a member of the Wildlife Advisory Group, and all three firms were interviewed on December 2, 2014; and

WHEREAS, based on the proposals, interviews, and decision analysis, the evaluation panel found that Merkel is the most qualified firm capable of providing the services described in the Request for Proposals based on their extensive experience in habitat restoration of coastal wetlands, upland communities, and subtidal habitats, and Merkel demonstrated a greater strength in their approach to the project; and

WHEREAS, District staff recommends entering into an agreement with Merkel to conduct the restoration and enhancement analysis for the Chula Vista Bayfront for an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

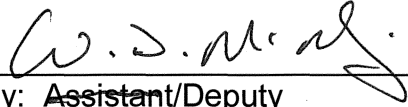
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, as follows:

That the Assistant Executive Director or his designated representative is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the San Diego Unified Port District to enter into an agreement with Merkel & Associates, Inc. to identify alternatives for the enhancement and restoration of the Chula Vista Bayfront in an amount not to

2015-03

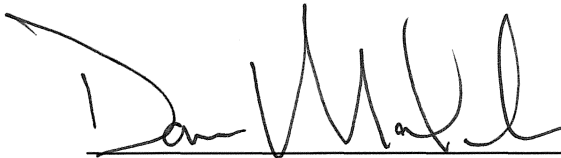
exceed \$200,000 in compliance with the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan Settlement Agreement.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
GENERAL COUNSEL

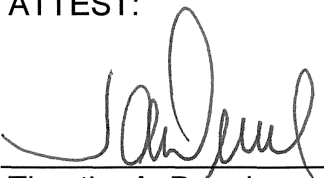

By: Assistant/Deputy

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, this 13th day of January 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: Bonelli, Castellanos, Malcolm, Merrifield, Moore, Nelson, and Valderrama.
NAYS: None.
EXCUSED: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.


Dan Malcolm, Chairman
Board of Port Commissioners

ATTEST:


Timothy A. Deuel
District Clerk

(Seal)