

Staff Report

TO: Board of Harbor Commissions

FROM: John Moren, Director of Operations

DATE: July 17, 2024

SUBJECT: Surfers Beach Replenishment Pilot Project Update and Consultant Damitz Continued D&E Proposal Consideration

Recommendation/Motion:

Motion: Approve a proposal from consultant Brad Damitz for an amount not to exceed \$38,400 to complete the planning and permitting phase project management for the Surfers Beach Restoration Pilot Project and the Pillar Point Harbor-Wide Eelgrass Mitigation Program through completion of the bid process and contract approval for construction, and approve an increase in Capital Expenditure Appropriations of this amount to be funded by available working capital.

Policy Implications:

Consistent with the District's goal to use excess sediment build-up from within the Harbor for beneficial re-use one Surfers Beach.

Background/Discussion:

The goal of the Surfers Beach Restoration Pilot Project is to remove sediment which has built up inside the Pillar Point Harbor (PPH) outer breakwater and move it to Surfers Beach for beneficial re-use. In addition to addressing coastal erosion and public access issues at Surfers Beach, this project would also address the issues associated with the shoaling that has occurred inside of the Harbor since the outer breakwater was constructed. The anticipated outcome is that the project will address impaired public access/recreational impacts and damages from coastal storms.

The Project, which design and permitting has been underway for over 7 years, involves dredging of up to 100,000 cubic yards of clean sand accumulated along the inside of Pillar Point Harbor's East Breakwater and a one-time placement of that sand to form an elevated berm along an approximately 1,000-foot-long section of shoreline at Surfers Beach in Half Moon Bay. The purpose of the project is to address erosion at Surfers Beach by restoring sandy beach area using clean sand dredged from navigable areas of Pillar Point Harbor, including the boat launch ramp. The project will also involve a large eelgrass mitigation effort, relocating eelgrass in the east basin prior to dredging and establishing a large eelgrass restoration area at the Harbor's west basin.



Photo showing the proposed Surfers Beach placement area.

Construction for the Surfers Beach Project is being planned for a spring/summer 2025 timeframe. Permits have been approved by California Coastal Commission, SF Regional Water Quality Control Board, Army Corps of Engineers, and Caltrans. The last remaining permit from MB National Marine Sanctuaries was executed July 11, 2024, so all permits have finally been approved.

The attached proposal from consultant Brad Damitz includes the project management and permitting and environmental compliance tasks necessary to complete the construction bid process and prepare for construction. Damitz has worked as a consultant for the District on the planning of the Surfers Beach Restoration Pilot Project since 2017. His project management work has included all aspects of project planning, permitting and CEQA environmental review. Brad has coordinated with District staff, ESA engineering and many permitting agencies to bring the project from an initial concept to a well-designed and comprehensive project with final plans completed. Proposed tasks in the attached proposal from Damitz include pre-construction logistics planning and collaboration, agency coordination and obtaining all remaining permits, coordinating with ESA on bid-ready engineering and design, reviewing and applying for grant funding opportunities, leading public outreach efforts and responding to public inquiries, and coordinating with District to manage bid process for construction.

A detailed Surfers Beach project description along with download links for various project planning documents, including recent planning and permitting status updates, are available on the District's Surfers Beach project webpage at <https://www.smharbor.com/surfers-beach-pilot-restoration-project>.

Summary/Recommendation:

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board approve aforementioned motion.

Attachments:

- 1) [Consultant Damitz's 7/1/24 Proposal](#)