



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

416 N. FRANKLIN, FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
PHONE 707/961-2823 FAX 707/961-2802

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY REPORT

MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2020
TO: CASPER TRANSFER STATION JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FROM: TABATHA MILLER, CITY MANAGER
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Receive Draft Central Coast Transfer Station Project Review and Recommendations Report from Diversion Strategies

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW:

On March 20, 2019, the Caspar Transfer Station Joint Coordinating Committee decided that an evaluation of a Central Coast Transfer Station was needed in order to determine next steps in a potential project. This work had been supported by Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MSWMA) but changes in staff and direction left a void responsibility for the project. Neither the City nor County have resources available to provide these services in-house. This led to the Committee's decision to hire a consultant to re-evaluate the viability of the Highway 20 Transfer Station Project and consider alternatives. To keep this project moving, City staff volunteered to issue an RFP and manage the consultant.

On May 13, 2019, the City Council approved a scope of work for Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting services. Proposals were due on July 8, 2019 and the City received one proposal from Diversion Strategies located in Sacramento, California. The Caspar Transfer Station Joint Coordinating Committee met on July 18, 2019 to review the proposal and recommended that after successful due diligence, the City execute a contract with Diversion Strategies in September and work commenced in November, 2019.

Work progressed until mid-March when the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted work flow for both Diversion Strategies and the City. The draft report was issued in May, 2020 and has been reviewed by both City and County staff and the County's consultant. City and County staff have started initial conversations with the current solid waste provider, Fort Bragg Disposal/Waste Management regarding the expiration of both entities' solid waste franchise agreements on June 30, 2021.

Background

The City and the County jointly own 60 acres in the Caspar area at the end of Prairie Way. The City and County first entered into a joint powers agreement in October 1967 to use the property as a solid waste landfill. The landfill was operated from 1968 to 1992, when the landfill was closed. Since then, the property has been used for a solid waste transfer station. The County had operated the facility until it executed the Operating Agreement and Lease with Solid Waste of Willits on January 25, 2011.

The current Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the County and the City was executed in January of 2011 to provide for changes in how the Caspar Solid Waste Transfer Station was operated and to consider the replacement or expansion of the Caspar Transfer Station in order to accommodate commercial collection trucks and allow for long-haul direct transfer to a destination landfill.

The JPA calls for a Joint Coordinating Committee consisting of two City Councilmembers and two County Supervisors. The Committee serves in an advisory role for the Board of Supervisors and the City. The JPA was amended October 25, 2016 in order to outline specific terms and obligations for moving forward with replacement of the Caspar Transfer Station. The County Board of Supervisors and City Council certified the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the new Transfer Station project for 30075 Highway 20 on September 19, 2016.

Acquisition of the property at 30075 Highway 20 involved a multi-party land swap. The State of California would transfer 17 acres (30075 Highway 20) to the City/County in exchange for 35 acres of land at the Caspar Landfill site. California Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) would take ownership of the 35-acre Caspar property in exchange for 12.6 acres of Russian Gulch State Park, which would be transferred to Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF). Not too long after the EIR was certified, DPR pulled out of the proposed land swap. Since that time, momentum on the new Transfer Station project stalled. Outside of inquiries into other possible land parcels that could be swapped with JDSF, little progress had been made and was the reason for the evaluation was undertaken.

Diversion Strategies Report

The funds collected from the \$3 fee at the Caspar Transfer Station were used to pay the consultant. The contract expired on May 30, 2020. One of the consideration for the Committee members is whether additional work is desired or necessary to finalize the report, perform any additional analysis or explore other opportunities. The original contract and RFP response had a not to exceed value of \$57,850. To date, \$34,928 has been spent on the project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Central Coast Transfer Station Project Review and Recommendations
2. Draft Transfer Station Pro Forma