



**Board Planning Committee
October 30, 2019**

SUBJECT:

Approve and Authorize Agreement with Environmental Science Associates (\$62,590) for the Development of a Climate Action Plan, and Appropriation of \$62,590

BACKGROUND:

EMWD's Triennial Strategic Plan (2019-2021) identified the development of a Climate Action Plan as a strategic priority. By developing a Climate Action Plan, EMWD will improve its competitiveness for outside grant funding opportunities and meets requirements of for certain grant solicitations. In addition, a Climate Action Plan will also allow the District to programmatically address greenhouse gas emissions, thereby streamlining the CEQA process for future capital investment projects. Many California water agencies have developed, or are currently developing, Climate Action Plans including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, San Diego County Water Authority, and East Bay Municipal Utility District.

Earlier this year, the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) initiated an update to their regional Climate Action Plan (regional CAP). EMWD, as a member agency of WRCOG, participated in the selection of a consultant for the WRCOG effort. Based on review of the proposals received, Environmental Science Associates (ESA) was selected to complete the WRCOG regional CAP.

EMWD is committed to participating in regional programs and plans on continuing to collaborate with WRCOG as the regional CAP is advanced. In order to build upon the work being developed for the regional CAP, EMWD requested a proposal from ESA to prepare a Climate Action Plan for EMWD in parallel with the WRCOG effort. Completing the Climate Action Plan using the same consultant and a similar schedule to WRCOG's regional CAP would allow the District to realize cost savings by eliminating duplicative work efforts. Staff has reviewed ESA's proposal (Exhibit A) and considers the fee commensurate with the proposed scope of the work. ESA also demonstrates a clear understanding of the project. The Climate Action Plan is scheduled to be completed by the end of calendar year 2020.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this item is provided for in the Biennial Budget for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Ensure all water supplies protect the health and safety of the community and the environment and meet all regulatory requirements.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This item is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15378.

RECOMMENDATION:

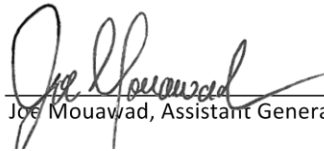
Approve and authorize the execution by the General Manager, or his designee, of the District's standard form of contract with Environmental Science Associates for the development of a Climate Action Plan and appropriation in the amount of \$62,590.

SUBMITTED BY:



Paul D. Jones II, P.E., General Manager

10/4/2019



Joe Mouawad, Assistant General Manager

10/1/2019

Attachment(s):

*Exhibit A - Proposal
Presentation*

11/20/19 Board Meeting

Staff Contact: Gordon Ng