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DATE: November 4, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Steve Worrell, PE – Senior Civil Engineer, Public Works & Utilities (PW&U)  
Jonathan Sanglerat, PE – Engineering/CIP Manager, PW&U  
Gina Benedetti-Petnic, PE – Interim Director, PW&U

SUBJECT: Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Shollenberger Amphitheater and Kiosk Improvements Project (C14502012) to Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc.

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution awarding a contract for the Shollenberger Amphitheatre and Kiosk Improvements project (C14502012) to Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc.

### **BACKGROUND**

On May 3, 2018, the City of Petaluma was awarded a grant from the California State Parks Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities program to construct an educational amphitheater at Shollenberger Park. The Petaluma Wetlands Alliance (PWA), a co-applicant on the grant, supported the plan to create an educational area near the entrance of the park and install an informational kiosk near the confluence with Adobe Creek. The grant provides \$213,500 in funding to support the design and construction of a 50-seat educational amphitheater, complete with a stage and kiosk, for use in outdoor education and various presentations. The City Council authorized the grant application through Resolution No. 2017-160 N.C.S.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Shollenberger Amphitheater and Kiosk Improvements Project (C14502012) includes the installation of a new accessible gravel pathway, stabilized by geogrid underlayment for ease of operations and maintenance. Additionally, an at-grade concrete stage with a stamped surface constructed of colored concrete designed to match the natural environment at the site will be constructed. The project also involves installing coated metal mesh benches with concrete footings, a concrete pad in the seating area with wheelchair accessibility and replacing the existing split rail fence. The fence will mark the edge of the environmentally sensitive area and protect the wetlands from encroachment.

City staff coordinated with the Petaluma Wetlands Alliance (PWA) and incorporated their feedback into the project plans. The design also followed recommendations from a site geotechnical investigation conducted by RGH Consultants. MKM & Associates prepared structural plans and calculations for the design of the stage and the concrete footings.

City staff prepared design bid documents for the project and issued a Notice Inviting Bids on September 20, 2024. On October 8, 2024, three (3) bids were received as follows:

<b>NAME OF BIDDER</b>	<b>BID TOTAL</b>
Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc	\$87,866.90
Coastside Concrete & Construction, Inc	\$97,875.00
M3 Integrated Services, Inc	\$105,775.00

Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, has performed similar work throughout the Bay Area, including Santa Rosa. Staff have verified that Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc. possesses a valid Class A California Contractor’s License (no. 1050989), qualifying them to perform the work. It is recommended that the Council adopt the Resolution awarding the contract to Precision Excavating and Grading, Inc., in the amount of \$87,866.90, as the lowest and most responsive bidder.

Construction is scheduled to begin in November 2024 and is anticipated to be completed before the end of the calendar year. The timeline of this construction is with considerations to avoid impacts on migratory bird nesting seasons and to utilize grant funding before expiration. City staff will oversee construction management, with additional support from an outside consultant for material testing and inspection services.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

City staff worked closely with the Petaluma Wetlands Alliance (PWA), providing regular updates and incorporating their feedback into design decisions. Additionally, updates on the project were presented to the Recreation, Music, and Parks Commission (RMPC). All meetings with the PWA and RMPC were open to the public.

This agenda item also appeared on the City’s tentative agenda document on October 21, 2024, which was a publicly noticed meeting.

**COUNCIL GOAL ALIGNMENT**

The Capital Improvement Program serves as a comprehensive catalog of community needs. Each year, the Council adopts a budget for the fiscal year that allocates funds and resources to priority projects. The Shollenberger Amphitheater and Kiosk project (C14502012) is included in the FY2024-2025 Adopted Budget under CIP-56. The full FY2024-2025 Adopted Operating and

Capital Improvement Program Budget can be found here:  
<https://cityofpetaluma.org/documents/fiscal-year-2025-adopted-budget/>

## **CLIMATE ACTION/SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS**

The Shollenberger Park project aligns with the City’s climate action and sustainability goals by promoting environmental education and incorporating sustainable construction practices. The amphitheater will host outdoor environmental education classes, fostering community engagement and increasing awareness of sustainability practices.

In support of these goals, the project utilizes fly ash in the concrete mix, a recycled byproduct from coal plants that replaces a portion of Portland cement. This reduces carbon dioxide emissions during production, making the concrete more environmentally friendly.

Additionally, the project incorporates Fiber Reinforced Polymer Reinforcement (FRPR) in the concrete, a lighter material that reduces transportation emissions compared to traditional steel. FRPR is also corrosion-resistant, extending the lifespan of the concrete and minimizing future repair needs, further reducing the project’s environmental footprint.

The replacement of the split rail fence helps protect sensitive wetlands from encroachment, preserving critical ecosystems. By combining sustainable materials and design elements with opportunities for environmental education, the project actively supports the City’s long-term sustainability and climate action objectives.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Shollenberger Park is an existing open space area with benches, a picnic area, and a walking path around the dredging spoils pond along the Petaluma River. The project will improve the park by adding a new educational area and making other minor changes.

The project is exempt from environmental review because it meets the following criteria: The educational area will use existing space in the park, the new structures will be small and consistent with the existing park features, and the project will not have any significant negative environmental impacts. Therefore, the project is exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301, (existing facilities), as the park and is an existing facility and Section 15303, (small structures) as the kiosk and amphitheater would constitute small structures and Section explicitly includes accessory structures.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

The Shollenberger Amphitheater and Kiosk Improvements Project (C14502012) has an approved FY24/25 budget of \$262,000, which is sufficient to cover costs. Funding sources for this project are the California State Parks grant, parkland impact fees, and revenue from Measure M—Parks for All.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

If the Shollenberger Amphitheater & Kiosk Improvements Project is not awarded to Precision Excavation & Grading, the project will need to be re-bid, resulting in a minimum three-month delay in construction.

Additionally, PG&E is currently performing repair work on the levees in Shollenberger Park. If we do not award the contract to Precision Excavation & Grading and instead choose to re-bid, the Amphitheater construction may not align with PG&E's schedule. This could extend disruptions to public access in the park, whereas awarding the project to Precision Excavation & Grading would allow for concurrent construction, minimizing disturbances for park visitors.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution
2. Location Map