



County of Monterey

Item No.7

Board Report

Legistar File Number: WRAG 24-043

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

March 18, 2024

Introduced: 3/12/2024

Current Status: Agenda Ready

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Matter Type: WR General Agenda

Recommend that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to accept a donation of funding for chain link fencing valued at \$4,500 from Cypress Creek Apartments.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors:

Recommend that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to accept a donation of funding for chain link fencing valued at \$4,500 from Cypress Creek Apartments.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) is responsible for the operations and maintenance of portions of the Reclamation Ditch mainstream, tributaries, and five pump stations. Within the City of Salinas (City), a portion of the Reclamation Ditch had a lack of enclosure, leading to entering of trash in the waterway. This has led to a scattering of trash, debris, and human waste which leads to pollution and creates a serious health, life, and safety hazard.

The purpose of the fencing work was to clear and keep trash away from the ditch, with the goal of improving and maintaining water quality in compliance with federal and state trash laws. The MCWRA carried out the fencing work with partial grant funds made available by the City for homelessness encampment resolution and that the type of fencing work consisted of steel chain link fencing. The fence is 160 feet in length and was initially bid \$9,000.00. The work was performed by Cypress Coast Fencing, and work commenced on January 11th, 2024. Cost of work was totaled at \$10,419.00.

MCWRA proposed that Cypress Creek Apartments, managed by Greystar Business Services, help to fund the project, as it benefits the residents of the apartments by enclosing the private property and stopping the discarding of trash, debris, and human waste. MCWRA asked Cypress Creek Apartments to assist with funding by means of a 50/50 split of the initial bid, an offer which Cypress Creek Apartments accepted. This resulted in the donation of \$4,500.00.

The MCWRA Board of Supervisors is empowered to accept this gift in order to serve a public purpose, here, operation of the Reclamation Ditch and protection of water quality. If the MCWRA Board of Supervisors authorizes acceptance of the donated funding, the Operations Division of the MCWRA has an opportunity to improve existing conditions of the Reclamation Ditch at Casentini Street at minimal cost to the MCWRA.

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) requires, by regulation, that local officials that accept gifts for local agency purposes document the transaction and post information about the transaction on the agency website if the fair market value is worth more than \$2,500. Upon approval of acceptance of the donation, the MCWRA will comply with the FPPC regulation and will post the appropriate information on the MCWRA website.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County Counsel has reviewed and assisted with this donation.

FINANCING:

The expense and reimbursement for the fence will fall within the FY 23-24 approved budget for the Reclamation Ditch, Fund 122.

Prepared by: Mallory Roberts, Water Resources Hydrologist

Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager

Attachment:

1. Letter to Cypress Creek Apartments Proposing Split Funding Effort
2. Letter fence work Cypress Creek ownership approval
3. Before and After Photos