



● **Board of Directors**
Engineering and Operations Committee

10/10/2017 Board Meeting

7-1

Subject

Adopt CEQA determination and appropriate \$200,000; and authorize preliminary design of security and erosion control improvements at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant (Appropriation No. 15479)

Executive Summary

This action authorizes preliminary design of security, fencing, and entry gate improvements along the perimeter of the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant (Mills plant), and erosion control improvements on the southern boundary of the plant.

Timing and Urgency

The perimeter fencing and several of the entry gates at the Mills plant are deteriorating and may be vulnerable to security breaches. In addition, stormwater runoff has recently eroded an area on the southern boundary of the Mills plant adjacent to Alessandro Boulevard. Improvements are needed along the perimeter of the Mills plant to enhance both security and erosion control.

This project has been reviewed with Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan (CIP) prioritization criteria and is included in the Treatment Plant Reliability Program. Funds for this action are available within Metropolitan's capital expenditure plan for fiscal year 2017/18.

Details

Background

The Mills plant was placed into service in 1978 and is currently rated to treat 220 million gallons per day (mgd). The facility serves Eastern Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) of Riverside County. The Mills plant is located on 234 acres within the city of Riverside, and has approximately 14,500 linear feet of perimeter fencing.

The plant is bordered by Alessandro Boulevard on the south, Mission Grove Parkway and WMWD property on the west, residential homes on the north, and Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park on the east. Alessandro Boulevard is a regional thoroughfare with a combination of businesses, restaurants, and residences located near Metropolitan's property.

In the early 1990s, security fencing was installed along the boundary of the Mills plant. The fencing primarily consists of chain link with a height of six to eight feet. Along a portion of the western boundary, a five-foot-tall fence separates the plant from WMWD's property. In recent years, vehicles have crashed through an entrance gate or the chain link fence several times, and trespassers have breached the fence. Security improvements are presently needed at several locations along the plant's perimeter.

At the southern boundary of the plant adjacent to Alessandro Boulevard, erosion control measures are also needed. During the heavy winter storms of 2016/17, stormwater flow in this area caused extensive erosion. Continued erosion may pose a risk of the release of sediment from Metropolitan's property.

In order to enhance plant perimeter security and maintain compliance with stormwater regulations, staff recommends moving forward with security and erosion control improvements at the Mills plant.

Mills Perimeter Improvements – Preliminary Design Phase (\$200,000)

The planned work includes the installation of approximately 7,700 feet of eight-foot-tall security fencing in three areas: the plant's southern boundary along Alessandro Boulevard; the northern boundary adjacent to private residences; and the western boundary shared with WMWD. In addition, three sliding chain link gates will be replaced with taller security gates that will have cameras to provide continuous surveillance. Grading and erosion control improvements within the plant will also be performed to prevent sediment from leaving the site. These improvements will include installation of v-ditches along the fence to divert stormwater into the plant's existing stormwater system, as well as regrading of the area adjacent to the southern boundary to direct flow into the v-ditch. These improvements are consistent with the architectural design guidelines developed for the Mills plant in the mid-1990s, and with Metropolitan's approach to facility security.

The preliminary design phase activities will include: (1) conducting field surveys, hydraulic studies, and potholing; (2) preparing conceptual layout drawings and environmental documentation; (3) permitting and coordinating with the city of Riverside, WMWD, and owners of other adjacent properties; and (4) developing a construction cost estimate. All activities will be performed by Metropolitan staff.

This action appropriates \$200,000 and authorizes preliminary design of security and erosion control improvements at the Mills plant. Requested funds include \$104,000 for the technical activities described above; \$21,000 for field surveys and potholing; \$49,000 for preparation of environmental documentation, permitting, and project management; and \$26,000 for remaining budget. Staff will return to the Board at a later date for authorization to commence final design.

This project has been evaluated and recommended by Metropolitan's CIP Evaluation Team, and funds are available within the fiscal year 2017/18 capital expenditure plan. See **Attachment 1** for the Financial Statement and **Attachment 2** for the Location Map.

This project is included within Appropriation No. 15479, the Mills Improvements Appropriation – FY 2012/13 Through 2017/18, which was initiated in fiscal year 2012/13. With the present action, the total funding for Appropriation No. 15479 will increase from \$3.2 million to \$3.4 million.

Specialized Technical Support (Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc.) – No Action Required

Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. will provide environmental support under an existing professional services agreement. Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. will perform biological surveys for the grading and drainage work, and will prepare environmental documentation. The estimated cost for these services is \$20,000.

No board action is required for this agreement. Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) firm, and thus achieves 100 percent SBE participation. No sub-consultants are planned for this agreement.

Project Milestone

March 2018 – Completion of preliminary design

Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 5108: Appropriations

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The overall activities involve the funding, studying, carrying out preliminary design, and preparing and processing environmental documentation for the proposed action. These activities consist of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

This may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. In addition, the activities may involve a check for performance of an operation, or quality, health, or safety of a project.

Accordingly, the proposed action qualifies for both Class 6 and Class 9 Categorical Exemptions (Sections 15306 and 15309 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that pursuant to CEQA, the proposed action qualifies under two Categorical Exemptions (Class 6, Section 15306 and Class 9, Section 15309 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is categorically exempt, and

- a. Appropriate \$200,000; and
- b. Authorize preliminary design of security and erosion control improvements at the Mills plant.

Fiscal Impact: \$200,000 of capital funds under Appropriation No. 15479

Business Analysis: This option will enhance the security of the Mills plant and compliance with stormwater regulations.

Option #2


Do not proceed with the improvements at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: This option would forego an opportunity to enhance Mills plant security and reduce the risk of stormwater erosion and sediment transport off the plant site.

Staff Recommendation

Option #1


 _____ 9/21/2017
 Gordon Johnson Date
 Manager/Chief Engineer,
 Engineering Services


 _____ 9/25/2017
 Jeffrey Knightlinger Date
 General Manager

Attachment 1 – Financial Statement

Attachment 2 – Location Map

Financial Statement for Mills Improvements Appropriation – FY 2012/13 Through FY 2017/18

A breakdown of Board Action No. 3 for Appropriation No. 15479 for the Mills plant¹ is as follows:

	Previous Total Appropriated Amount (Apr. 2017)	Current Board Action No. 3 (Oct. 2017)	New Total Appropriated Amount
Labor			
Studies & Investigations	\$ 69,500	\$ 124,000	\$ 193,500
Final Design	2,034,000	-	2,034,000
Owner Costs (Program mgmt, permitting, envir. doc.)	335,000	29,000	364,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	15,000	-	15,000
Construction Inspection & Support	26,000	-	26,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	205,000	-	205,000
Incidental Expenses	7,000	1,000	8,000
Professional/Technical Services	140,000	-	140,000
Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc.	-	20,000	20,000
Equipment Use	-	-	-
Contracts	-	-	-
Remaining Budget	368,500	26,000	394,500
Total	\$ 3,200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 3,400,000

Funding Request

Program Name:	Mills Improvements Appropriation – FY 2012/13 Through FY 2017/18		
Source of Funds:	Revenue Bonds, Replacement and Refurbishment or General Funds		
Appropriation No.:	15479	Board Action No.:	3
Requested Amount:	\$ 200,000	Budget Page No.:	243
Total Appropriated Amount:	\$ 3,400,000	Total Program Estimate:	\$ 36,500,000

¹ This is the initial action for security and erosion control improvements at the Mills plant.

Distribution System

