

DATE: August 4, 2004

TO: Members, Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Sphere of Influence Committee (Members Heller, Rose & Slavitz)
Peter Banning, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Recommended Contract Authorization – Southern Marin Sewer Service Alternatives Study

The Commission's Sphere of Influence Committee met July 23, 2004 to interview consulting firms for the Southern Marin Sewer Service Alternatives Study. Representatives of Quad Knopf, HDR Consulting and PB Consult were interviewed. Each of the one-hour interviews included a presentation by the consultant, a standard series of questions asked by the Committee members and general discussion of the impending project.

The Committee and staff agreed to recommend that PB Consult, in association with the Eisenhardt Group, be retained for the sewer alternatives study at a cost not to exceed \$75,000 as provided in the Commission's adopted budget.

Some of the discussion concerned the recent Marin County Civil Grand Jury report, *Southern Marin Sewers – So Many District, So Few Users* published April 27th. The report recommended that southern Marin sewer agencies retain an impartial facilitator and hold a meeting of sewer agency representatives for discussion of opportunities for consolidation, collaboration and cooperation.

The Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin (SASM) organized and funded the meetings proposed by the Civil Grand Jury. The second and final meeting concluded July 22nd. SASM General Manager David Coe forwarded the attached action minutes of the meetings. Honor is due to the Civil Grand Jury, SASM and the agency representatives participating in the meetings. All eleven southern Marin sewer agencies sent representatives to each meeting. Participants reached consensus on both recommendations to LAFCO for study alternatives and on collaborative activities that the agencies will undertake on their own initiative.

All of the consultant proposals submitted for the sewer alternatives study were written prior to the meetings undertaken by southern Marin sewer agencies. The fortuitous timing and the usefulness of the meetings' consensus will logically have an impact on the scope and process of the consultant's work and will require some revisions. Representatives of PB Consult have indicated their willingness to reconfigure some aspects of their proposed work program.

Recommendation: The members of the Sphere of Influence Committee and staff recommend that the Commission authorize the Executive Officer to negotiate a final scope of work and contract with PB Consult for the Southern Marin Sewer Service Alternatives Study for a cost not to exceed \$75,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Banning
Executive Officer