



Agenda Item No. (6)

To: Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole
Meeting of August 25, 2022

From: Joseph M. Wire, Auditor-Controller
John R. Eberle, Deputy District Engineer
Ewa Z. Bauer-Furbush, District Engineer
Denis J. Mulligan, General Manager

Subject: **APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PROJECT, *SUICIDE DETERRENT SYSTEM RESCUE TRAINING NET PROJECT*, IN THE FISCAL YEAR 22/23 BRIDGE DIVISION CAPITAL BUDGET**

Recommendation

The Finance-Auditing Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve establishing a new Bridge Division Capital Project, Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net Project*, in the Fiscal Year 22/23 Bridge Division Capital budget with a total budget of \$824,000, to be 100% financed with the District's Capital Reserves, for the construction of the rescue training net at the Southern Marin Fire Department facility in Mill Valley, California.

This matter will be presented to the Board of Directors at its August 26, 2022, meeting for appropriate action.

Summary

The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) is currently proceeding with the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge Physical Suicide Deterrent System Project (SDS Project), Projects #1526. The Project involves construction of a horizontal stainless steel net system supported by cantilevered steel brackets along the west and east sides of four Golden Gate Bridge structures: the South Approach Viaduct, the Fort Point Arch, the Suspension Bridge, and the North Approach Viaduct. The net system and cantilevered steel brackets are located approximately twenty feet below the bridge sidewalks and extend out about twenty feet.

The net system consists of stainless steel border cables that are attached to the existing bridge structures or new net support brackets and a stainless steel net built of 4 mm wire ropes, which is spread between and sewn onto the border cables.

The effectiveness of suicide deterrent horizontal net systems has been confirmed by drastic reduction of suicide attempts at facilities where such nets are installed. Considering that there have been few reported incidents of people jumping onto the nets despite a risk of injury, it is important

to have a rescue plan for those who might jump or otherwise end up in the net and injure themselves in the twenty-foot fall from the Bridge sidewalk onto the steel net. To that end, staff reached out to representatives from the Southern Marin Fire Department, the San Francisco Fire Department, the California Highway Patrol and the United States Coast Guard to develop a coordinated bridge net rescue plan. The District and the Southern Marin Fire Department have agreed that a rescue training net should be constructed at the Fire Department's training tower in Mill Valley to facilitate the development of different rescue techniques and to aid in the training of rescue and law enforcement personnel.

Under PSA No. 2011-B-2, the District retained HNTB Corporation, the design consultant for the SDS Project, to provide engineering support services during the SDS Project construction. By Resolution No. 2014-082, the Board of Directors authorized execution of the Sixth Amendment to PSA No. 2011-B-2 with HNTB Corporation to design the rescue training net to be installed on the training tower at the Southern Marin Fire Department facility in Mill Valley. The design has been completed. The District has obtain a right-of-entry permit to construct the project at the Mill Valley facility. It was originally anticipated that the construction of the rescue training net would be procured through a contract change order to construction Contract No. 2016-B-1, *Golden Gate Bridge Physical Suicide Deterrent System and Wind Retrofit Projects*, but attempts to negotiate contract change order prices with the contractor have failed. This necessitates that the Rescue Training Net Project (Project #2321) be established in the FY 22/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget to procure construction of this project by advertising a rescue training net construction contract for construction bids.

The new project will include:

- the procurement by the District of the border cables, stainless steel net and hardware from the same manufacturer that is fabricating the net for the SDS Project construction;
- the construction contract for fabrication and installation of the training rescue net support brackets on the training tower; installation of the border cables and stainless steel net on the brackets; and required modifications to the training tower;
- construction engineering support services by the project designer; and,
- construction management and administration by District staff.

Staff recommends that the Building and Operating Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net Project*, be established in the FY 22/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget with the budget of \$824,000.

Fiscal Impact

Approval of this staff recommendation will add Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net Project*, to the FY 22/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget in the amount of \$824,000 to be 100% finance with the District's Capital Reserves.

The following table provides a breakdown of Project #2321 budget:

PROJECT #2321 BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
Net Procurement by District	\$30,000
Construction Contract	\$428,000
Construction Contract Contingency (15%)	\$64,200
Construction Administration – District Staff Burden Labor	\$160,000
Indirect Costs (ICAP) on District Staff Burden Labor	\$70,000
Construction Engineering Support Services (Consultant)	\$52,000
Construction Engineering Contingency (10%)	\$5,200
Printing and Advertising and General Project Expenditures	14,600
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$824,000

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