



Agenda Item No. (4)(a)

To: Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole  
Meeting of February 23, 2023

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

Subject: **AUTHORIZE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT(S) AND/OR TRANSFERS**  
**(a) BUDGET INCREASE IN THE FY 22/23 BRIDGE DIVISION**  
**CAPITAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT #2321, SUICIDE DETERRENT**  
**SYSTEM RESCUE TRAINING NET**

### **Recommendation**

The Finance-Auditing Committee recommends, in concurrence with the Building and Operating Committee at its meeting on February 23, 2023, that the Board of Directors authorize an increase in the FY 22/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget in the amount of \$101,169 relative to Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net*.

### **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 (SDS Project). The SDS 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 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,

California, to facilitate the development of different rescue techniques and to aid in the training of rescue and law enforcement personnel.

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 failed. On August 26, 2022, the Board of Directors, by Resolution No. 2022-071, approved the establishment of Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net* in the FY 2022/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget, 100% District funded.

A contract to construct the project, Contract No. 2022-B-084, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net*, involves, in general, the following work:

- Modifications to the Southern Marin Fire Department training tower;
- Fabrication and installation of new railings similar to the railings on the Golden Gate Bridge;
- Fabrication and installation of the training rescue net support brackets; and,
- Installation of District furnished net onto the support brackets.

On October 25, 2022, the bid solicitation documents were posted to Bonfire, the District's public procurement portal. In addition, the solicitation was advertised several times in the Marin Independent Journal and the Small Business Exchange starting October 28, 2022. A courtesy message notifying disadvantaged and small businesses was sent to approximately 245 email addresses. Six firms downloaded the solicitation documents from the District's procurement portal. By the specified bid opening date of December 6, 2022, no bids were received. On December 20, 2022, the bid solicitation was re-advertised and was again advertised three more times in the Marin Independent Journal and Small Business Exchange. Staff reached out to firms that had previously downloaded the solicitation documents or that had expressed an interest in the project to inform them of the new solicitation opportunity. Seven firms downloaded the solicitation documents. On the bid opening date of January 24, 2023, two bids were received, opened and publicly read:

	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>TOTAL BID PRICE</u>
1.	Valentine Corporation, San Rafael, CA (*corrected \$478,205)	\$487,505.00 *
2.	Brownstein Construction, Inc., Petaluma, CA (**corrected \$499,185)	\$496,209.90 **

The Engineering staff, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Administrator and Attorney evaluated the bid proposals.

The two construction bid proposals came in higher than the estimated bid amount but are very close to one another. Engineering staff evaluated the bids and determined that the engineer's estimates for concrete wall removal, roof deck modifications, clean and paint structural steel, new steel railing and installation of the net were underestimated. In addition, the estimated amounts for consultant engineering support and testing services were underestimated and contributed to the budget shortfall. Engineering staff has reviewed the bids and determined that they are reasonable and reflect the current market conditions for such work. Engineering staff reviewed the bid proposals for completeness and conformance with the bid solicitation requirements and determined that Valentine Corporation's proposal complies with the requirements. Engineering staff performed a cost analysis of the bid and determined that Valentine Corporation's pricing for the work is fair and reasonable.

A Small Business Enterprise (SBE) contract-specific goal of 9.2% was established for this contract. Bidders were required to document their activities in the solicitation and selection process of subcontractors, subconsultants, and suppliers to ensure that this process was carried out in a nondiscriminatory manner. Valentine Corporation is an SBE and the DBE Program Administrator has determined that Valentine Corporation has complied with the DBE/SBE Program requirements applicable to this contract. At this time, SBE participation of approximately 83.8% is anticipated during the performance of this contract.

The Engineering staff and Attorney determined that Valentine Corporation, with a bid price of \$487,505, is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and recommends award of Contract No. 2022-B-084 to Valentine Corporation.

It is recommended that a contingency in an amount of \$73,126, or 15% of the construction contract's total price, be established for Contract No. 2022-B-084 in the event of unforeseen circumstances arising during construction.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Project #2321, *Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net*, was approved in the FY 2022/23 Bridge Division Capital Budget in the amount of \$824,000 and is 100% District funded. The proposed actions would result in a \$101,169 increase to the total project budget. The revised total project budget of \$925,169 will be 100% District-funded.

**TABLE 1: PROJECT BUDGET – #2321, Suicide Deterrent System Rescue Training Net**

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CURRENT PROJECT BUDGET</b>	<b>PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT</b>	<b>TOTAL PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET</b>
<b>District Staff Labor/Fringe</b>	\$160,000	\$9,338	\$169,338
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	\$70,000	-	\$70,000
<b>General Project Expenditures</b>	\$30,000	-	\$30,000
<b>Printing &amp; Advertising</b>	\$14,600	-	\$14,600
<b>Prime Contract</b>	\$428,000	\$59,505	\$487,505
<b>Prime Contract Contingency (15%)</b>	\$64,200	\$8,926	\$73,126
<b>Construction Engineering (Consultant)</b>	\$52,000	\$14,000	\$66,000
<b>Construction Engineering Contingency (10%)</b>	\$5,200	\$1,400	\$6,600
<b>Construction Support Testing Services (Consultant)</b>	-	\$8,000	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$824,000</b>	<b>\$101,169</b>	<b>\$925,169</b>