



Agenda Item No. (3)

To: Building and Operating Committee/Committee of the Whole
Meeting of August 27, 2026

From: John R. Eberle, District Engineer
Denis J. Mulligan, General Manager

Subject: **APPROVE ACTIONS RELATIVE TO GENERAL MANAGER
AUTHORIZATION LIMITS FOR CHANGE ORDERS TO
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT NO. 2025-B-052, GOLDEN GATE
SUSPENSION BRIDGE SEISMIC RETROFIT, CONTRACT 1 – NORTH AND
SOUTH TOWERS AND NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE SPANS, AND FOR
AMENDMENTS TO THE RELATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENTS**

Recommendation

The Building and Operating Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve the following:

1. Authorize the General Manager to approve construction contract change orders to Contract No. 2025-B-052, *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit, Contract 1 – North and South Towers and North and South Side Spans*, within the financial limits of the contract budget, up to a maximum of \$1,000,000 for any individual change order, with contract change orders exceeding \$500,000 and up to \$1,000,000 requiring the concurrence of the President of the Board of Directors and the Building and Operating Committee Chair;
2. Authorize the General Manager to approve amendments to professional services agreements authorized for Project #2520, *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Towers and Side Spans Seismic Retrofit Construction Project*, within the financial limits of agreement budgets, up to a maximum of \$150,000 for any individual amendment; and,
3. Authorize the General Manager to delegate portions of these approval authorities to his designees.

This matter will be presented to the Board of Directors at its August 28, 2026, meeting for appropriate action.

Summary

The Board of Directors, at its October 24, 2025, meeting, authorized the award of a contract to construct the *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit Contract 1 – North and South Towers and North and South Side Spans*, Contract No. 2025-B-052, in the amount of \$863,949,008, to Halmar International, LLC (Resolution No. 2025-070), and approved a construction contingency of \$41,350,000.

Contract No. 2025-B-052 is a part of Project #2520 *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Towers and Side Spans Seismic Retrofit Construction* (Project), that in addition to the construction contract, includes several professional services contracts, an interagency agreement with the National Park Service, and an interagency contract with the California Highway Patrol.

Contract No. 2025-B-52 is a multi-year contract that involves construction of the seismic retrofit of the Suspension Bridge's two main towers and two side spans, including but not limited to the following:

- Retrofit of the two main towers
- Strengthening of the roadway stiffening trusses
- Floorbeam strengthening and modifications
- Lateral system replacement and retrofit
- Finger joint replacement
- Installation of 28 solid state Energy Dissipation Devices (EDD)
- Cleaning and painting of structural steel

The construction contract is technically complex and has a demanding construction schedule. The construction contract requires extensive field measurements and verifications of existing conditions prior to installing and utilizing contractor's temporary access systems and prior to fabricating and installing the new structural steel. The record drawings of the original construction do not necessarily accurately represent the actual construction tolerances and variances, and the field measurements may reveal variable and non-uniform conditions requiring modifications to the construction details. In addition, the existing condition assessments may reveal unknown utilities that conflict with the work and must be removed or relocated prior to performing the work or may reveal unknown deterioration of existing steel elements that require repair prior to utilizing temporary access systems or installing the retrofit elements.

Lack of timely approvals of changes to Contract No. 2025-B-052 to address these issues and associated professional services agreements may expose the District to risk of project delays and associated increased construction costs.

The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's (District) Procurement Manual currently authorizes the General Manager to approve change orders to contracts awarded in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Procurement Manual as follows:

- a. Where the original contract amount is \$250,000 or less, the General Manager is authorized to approve change orders up to an amount that, when combined with the original contract amount, does not exceed \$250,000.
- b. The General Manager is authorized to approve change orders or amendments to contracts awarded by the Board up to the established contract contingency.
- c. For contracts without an established contract contingency, the General Manager may authorize change orders or amendments within the adopted budget cumulatively not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the original contract price up to the amount of the General Manager's delegated contract authority. All other change orders shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

Contract No. 2025-B-052 falls under scenario b. above, which authorizes the General Manager to approve change orders up to the established \$41,350,000 contract contingency. In light of the scale of the Project and the established contract contingency, staff recommends modifying the General Manager's approval authority limits for this Project, to authorize the General Manager to approve construction change orders up to \$500,000, and that change orders over \$500,000, and up to a maximum of \$1,000,000, be approved by the General Manager with the concurrence of the President of the Board and Chair of the Building and Operating Committee. Change orders over \$1,000,000 shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

Staff also recommends that the General Manager have the authority to approve amendments to professional service agreements and interagency agreements authorized for the Project in an amount up to \$150,000 per amendment, and have the authority to delegate some of these increased approval authority limits to a designee in his absence.

All such construction contract change orders and amendments to professional services agreements must be within the Board approved construction contract or agreement budget. In keeping with District practice, contract change orders and amendments approved by the General Manager will be reported to the Finance-Auditing Committee on a quarterly basis.

Similar expanded authority was granted to the General Manager for the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Phase II and Phase IIIA, the Golden Gate Bridge Moveable Median Barrier, and the Suicide Deterrent System and Wind Retrofit projects, and contributed to the efficient execution of those projects within the approved budgets. This approach is proposed for Project #2520 *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Towers and Side Spans Seismic Retrofit Construction* to expeditiously process contract change orders and amendments as necessary.

Fiscal Impact

There will be no financial impact resulting from the recommended increase in approval authority limits, as all changes authorized by the General Manager must be within the project budget. Providing the General Manager with the higher approval authority limits will mitigate risks of project delays and increased construction costs associated with delays for approvals.

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