

Board of Trustees Agenda Item**Board Meeting Date:** October 3, 2011**Title of Item:** Environmental Consulting Services Firm Selection**Background and Analysis:**

Environmental consulting services are needed by the District for preparation of environmental documents to comply with requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Compliance with CEQA is required by the California Department of Education for approval of the Educational Center proposed to be located at the Onizuka Air Force Station. In addition, CEQA-related services may be required from time to time for Measure C projects at both Foothill College and De Anza College.

On August 11, 2011 the District issued Request for Qualifications (RFQ) #1409 for Environmental Consulting Services. The intent of the RFQ was to establish a pool of firms qualified to provide services both for the Onizuka site and for a variety of projects to be undertaken by the District.

The RFQ was advertised on Bidnet, and local firms thought to be qualified were contacted directly and encouraged to apply. On September 9, 2011, the District received responses to the RFQ from the following four firms:

Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.
Placemakers
RBF Consulting
URS Corporation

A selection committee, comprised of District and Gilbane/Maas personnel, deliberated regarding the completeness and quality of responses, experience related to District projects, qualifications and experience of proposed team members, ability to dedicate the appropriate quantity and quality of staff, and fee structure. All four of the respondent firms were deemed to meet the qualifications needed to be included in the pool.

RBF Consulting was considered to be most qualified for providing services related to the Onizuka site due to their specific experience in the project area and their working knowledge of local environmental issues. RBF was the lead consultant in preparation of the Moffett Park Specific Plan and EIR and has prepared two subsequent EIR's for projects within the Moffett Park Specific Plan area. In accordance with the RFQ the District will attempt to negotiate an agreement for the services related to the Onizuka site with this firm, but may contact other approved firm(s) if an agreement cannot be reached.

Copies of the responses to the Request for Qualification's from each of the interested firms are available for review in the Office of the Executive Director of Facilities and Operations.

No commitment was made in the RFQ to employ every selected firm; final selections to provide services for individual projects will be based upon project needs, experience and qualification related to the project, availability relative to project schedules, references, and comparative cost proposals.

Recommendation: Executive Director of Facilities, Operations, and Construction Management Charles Allen recommends that the Board approve the list of four firms to be included in an Environmental Consulting Services Pool, and that the Board authorize the Executive Director of Facilities and Operations to enter into negotiations with RBF Consulting for services related to the proposed Educational Center at Onizuka Air Force Station.

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| Is backup provided? | No |