



Special Public Session of June 7, 2022

**Santa Cruz Port Commission  
MINUTES**

*Commission Members Present (via teleconference):*

Reed Geisreiter      Chair  
Darren Gertler      Vice-chair  
Stephen Reed      Commissioner  
Toby Goddard      Commissioner

*Commission Members Absent:*

Dennis Smith      Commissioner

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BUDGET SESSION – 5:30 PM**

Chair Geisreiter brought the special public budget session to order at 5:30 PM via teleconference.

1. Oral Communication
2. Approval of Resolution 22-12, Authorizing Virtual Public Meetings in Accordance with Assembly Bill 361 (*There was no discussion on this agenda item*)

MOTION:      Motion made by Commissioner Goddard, seconded by Vice-chair Gertler to approve resolution 22-12.  
- *Motion carried. Commissioner Smith ABSENT.*

3. Award of Contract for the Electrical Service Upgrade Project at 333 Lake Avenue (NTE \$58,300)

Discussion:      Facilities Maintenance & Engineering (FME) Manager Wulf stated that the current electrical system serving 333 Lake Avenue has been identified as needing repair and upgrade.

FME Manager Wulf stated that bids for this project were solicited on an informal basis in accordance with the California Public Contract Code. Central Electric Company submitted the lowest responsive bid.

MOTION:      Motion made by Commissioner Goddard, seconded by Commissioner Reed to authorize the Port Director to execute a contract with Central Electric Company to upgrade the electrical service at 333 Lake Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$58,300.  
- *Motion carried. Commissioner Smith ABSENT.*

4. Award of Contract for Preliminary Engineering and Conceptual Design of West Side Seawall (NTE \$120,000)

Discussion:      Port Director MacLaurie stated that at its regular public session on April 26, 2022, the Commission reviewed a proposal from Mesiti-Miller Engineering (MME) for

preliminary engineering and conceptual design services for repair and replacement of the aging west side seawall. She stated that after deliberations, there was consensus among the Commission to solicit a revised proposal from MME to include a comprehensive condition assessment and report into the scope of work.

Commissioner Goddard expressed support for the revised proposal. Vice-chair Gertler agreed.

A discussion ensued regarding funding reallocation options. There was consensus among the Commission to reallocate \$17,208 from the Unallocated CIP to the South Harbor Revetment and Seawall Fund.

**MOTION:**

Motion made by Commissioner Goddard, seconded by Vice-chair Gertler to

- Authorize the Port Director to execute a contract with Mesiti-Miller Engineering for preliminary engineering and conceptual design of the west side seawall (A-Dock to FF-Dock) in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.
- Approve proposed funding reallocation of \$17,208 from the Unallocated CIP (F099) and \$4,292 from the General Fund to the South Harbor Revetment and Seawall Fund (F021).
- *Motion carried. Commissioner Smith ABSENT.*

**5. Review Replacement Options for Tsunami-Damaged North Harbor Transformers**

**Discussion:**

Port Director MacLaurie stated that as a result of the January 15, 2022, tsunami, 6 power substations (transformers) in the north harbor were significantly damaged. She stated that while the six transformers were brought back online and are currently operable, they should not be expected to remain serviceable for an extended period of time. She stated that immediate replacement is needed to ensure electrical service to critical north harbor infrastructure remains operable.

Staff detailed the following replacement options and requested that the Commission provide direction to determine which option is preferable:

- OPTION 1 – REPLACEMENT IN KIND  
Replace each transformer with a new Eaton Brand Substation (complete with multi-circuit ground fault monitoring), suitable for placement over the water. Transformers will be replaced in kind at their current locations on the gangways. No mitigation work required.
- OPTION 2 – RAISE HEIGHT OF TRANSFORMERS  
Replace each transformer with a new Eaton Brand Substation (complete with multi-circuit ground fault monitoring), suitable for placement over the water. Transformers will be placed at their current locations on the

gangways, with a suitable and seismically sound concrete foundation constructed to raise the height of each unit to prevent future flooding.

- OPTION 3 – RELOCATE TRANSFORMERS

Replace each transformer with a new, standard commercial transformer suitable for landside placement and relocate each unit to a landside location above the anticipated flood zone.

A discussion ensued regarding the potential impacts associated with each option. Overall project costs, feasibility, and equipment lead times were considered as part of the discussion.

There was consensus among the Commission to proceed with Option 3, due to the following:

- Relocating the transformers to a landside location (off of the gangways) will help prevent future flooding in the event of another tsunami.
- Work under this option will require minimal service interruption of approximately 2-4 days per location to allow for change out of the existing units.
- Standard commercial transformers can be obtained for a lower cost than units designed for placement over the water.
- Standard commercial transformers have a shorter lead time of approximately 10 – 12 weeks.

In recognition of the emergency nature of this project, the Commission directed staff to proceed with procurement on an emergency basis (under Resolution 22-03), waiving the formal bidding requirements for this project.

Port Director MacLaurie stated that preliminary design and engineering work will commence, with contracts in excess of \$125,000 being presented to the Commission for approval.

Chair Geisreiter adjourned the special public session at approximately 6:22 pm.



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Reed Geisreiter, Chair