

Strategic Plan Facilitator Consultant Services Award of Agreement

Rachel Gray, LESJWA Authority Administrator LESJWA Board Meeting | October 19, 2023 Item No. 6.A.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors:

- Accept the proposal from Water Systems Consulting for Strategic Plan Facilitation services.
- Authorize the LESJWA Authority Administrator to negotiate fee and execute an Agreement for Services with Water Systems Consulting, Inc. for Strategic Plan Facilitator Consultant Services in an amount not-to-exceed \$61,600.

Background





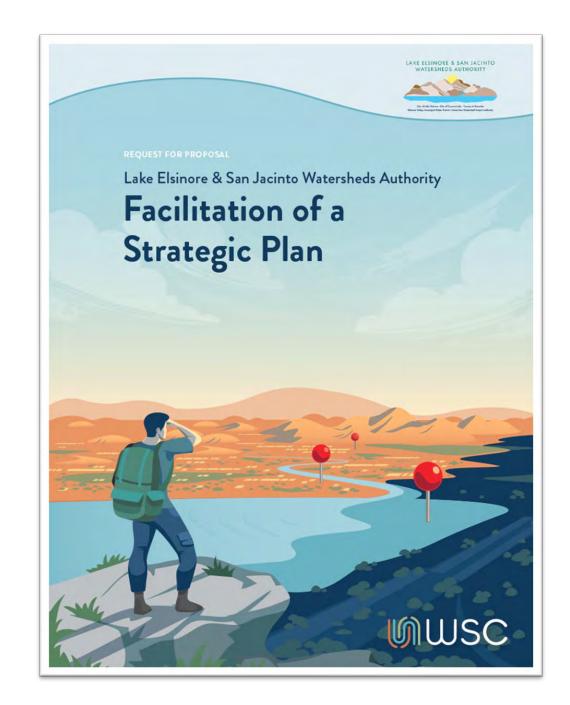
Request for Proposals (RFP)

- August 18, 2023: RFP for Strategic Plan Facilitator Consultant Services was approved the Board of Directors.
- August 21, 2023 release of RFP
- September 29, 2023 seven proposals were received
- Selection committee consisted of representatives from LESJWA member agencies.
- The selection committee's results ranked Water Systems Consulting, Inc., as the most qualified and it is proposed to award a consulting agreement to this firm.

Ranking	Firm	Score	Cost		
1	Water System Consulting, Inc.	87.3	\$61,600		
2	GEI Consultants, Inc.	76.9	\$49,424		
3	Strategy Driver, Inc.	72.9	\$98,075		
4	Moss Adams LLP	63.8	\$62,000		
5	KJ Peterson Consulting	61.9	\$33,720		
6	Linnett Loving	53.7	\$51,000		
7	Eli Patrick & Co.	45.0	\$85,050		

Scope of Work

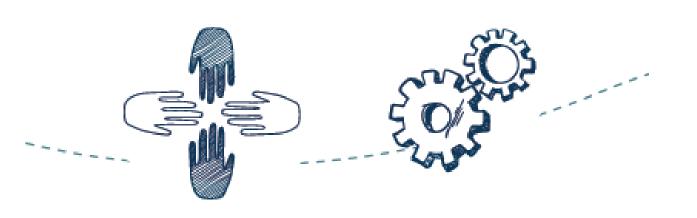
- Identify and provide required information.
- Meet with LESJWA staff to develop detailed implementation plan and schedule.
- Conduct meetings and preliminary workshops with member agencies, key watershed stakeholders, and technical staff.
- Conduct listening sessions with LESJWA Board of Directors.
- Meet with key LESJWA partners.
- Conduct initial workshop with the Board of Directors.
- Draft initial strategic plan.
- Conduct second workshop with the Board of Directors.
- Finalize strategic plan.
- Present final plan to the Board of Directors.



2023 Strategic Plan – Desired Results

- Confirm the vision, values, and priorities for LESJWA to meet the present and future needs of the member agencies and watershed stakeholders.
- Seek input from key stakeholders, technical experts, member agencies, and Board of Directors to define the goals of LESJWA.
- Institute a process to set benchmarks, establish targets, and measure success.
- Target completion period of approximately eight months.





Funding

Contributing Agency	Amount
County of Riverside	\$25,000

Member Agency	Amount Requested
City of Canyon Lake	\$9,150
City of Lake Elsinore	\$9,150
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	\$9,150
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	\$9,150

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Thank You

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Lake Elsinore Background

- Lake Elsinore is a natural, freshwater lake situated at the end of the 780 square mile San Jacinto Watershed, Lake Elsinore is reliant on rainfall and watershed runoff.
- Lake Elsinore presents a highly intricate and distinct aquatic environment, characterized by a shallow bottom and rising temperatures, recent occurrences of algae blooms, and decreasing levels of dissolved oxygen.
- The lake has had fish kills in the past and in 2022 had to be shut down for an increase in toxins.











Completed Projects

- Fishery Survey and Management Plan
- Lake Elsinore Carp Removal
- Island Well Pump Station Improvements
- Stripped Bass Stocking
- Lake Elsinore Destratification and Mixing System
- Prop 1 Round 1 Pilot Study



Algae Blooms

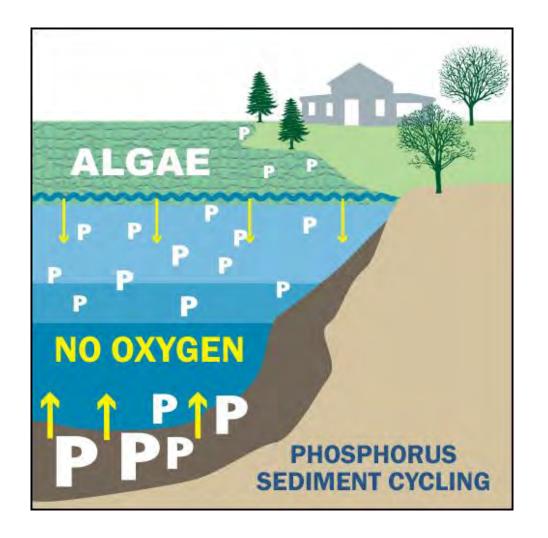
- Algae is a natural occurrence and is present in all lakes.
 Algae blooms are often caused by nutrient pollution, an overabundance of the essential plant nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus.
- These elements enter waterways from a variety of sources, many of which are related to human activities.
- Major sources include human and animal wastes, soil erosion, detergents, septic systems and runoff from farmland or fertilized lawns, and internal loading.





External & Internal Phosphorus Loading

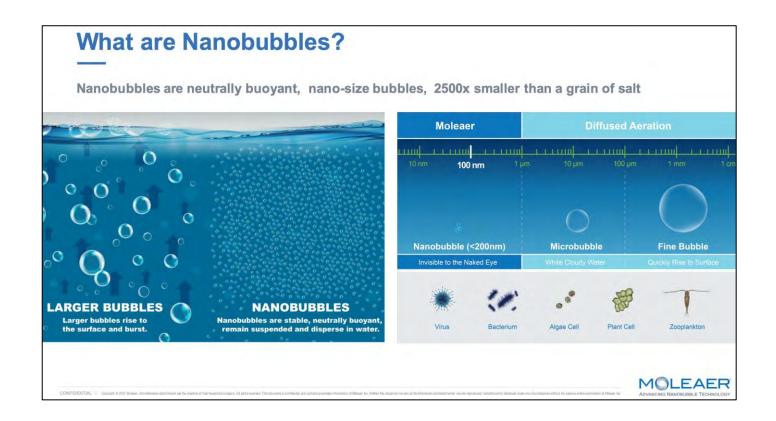
- Elevated phosphorus concentrations can trigger the development of algal blooms that produce toxins harmful to the wellbeing of both humans and animals.
- If all external sources of Phosphorus (P)
 were removed, a lake would continue to
 grow algae. This is because (P) is recycled
 within the lake.





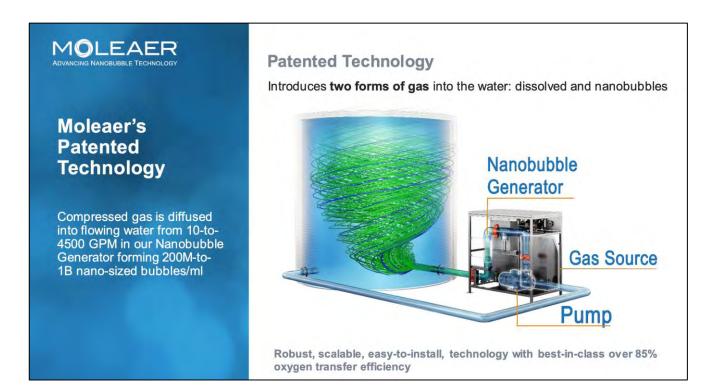
Nanobubbles

 Nanobubbles are 2500 times smaller than a single grain of salt. They can be formed using any gas and injected into the lake. Due to their size, nanobubbles exhibit unique properties that improve numerous physical, chemical, and biological processes.





Nanobubble Treatment



- Nanobubble generators will be installed on a floating barge approximately 50 feet off the shoreline on the East side of the lake between Mohr and Davis Street.
- The project will include baseline water quality testing and hardness mapping of the lake bottom.
- The testing will allow us to track the effectiveness of the equipment and determine how many future systems are needed to treat the whole lake.
- This system will treat 7.2 million gallons a day.



Peroxide Based Algaecide

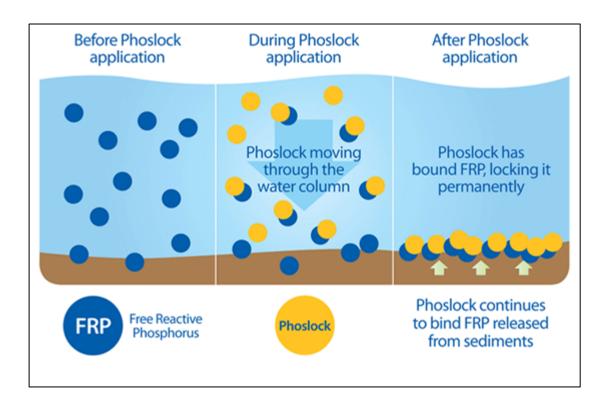
- Hydrogen peroxide is a well-known agent for disinfection and water treatment with a strong oxidizing capability.
- Active ingredient, sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate, creates a powerful oxidation reaction that destroys algal cell membranes and chlorophyll, providing immediate control of algae.
- Fast acting, it leaves behind no harmful residues.





Phosphorus Treatment

 Lanthanum is derived from a naturally occurring mineral, which rapidly binds with and removes free reactive phosphorus (FRP) from the water column. It is also effective in locking up the phosphorus in the sediment layer.







Future Projects

- The City's roadmap approach to improving the lake includes longterm projects currently in the planning phase of development.
 - Army Corps
 - Algae Harvester
 - Lake Elsinore Aeration and Mixing System Replacement



Army Corp of Engineers Habitat Restoration



- The Army Corps is in the planning stage of a wetland restoration project that will help to filter the lake water and restore the natural habitat around the lake.
- This project is planned for the inlet channel that receives water from Canyon Lake and the outflow channel near Elm Grove Beach.



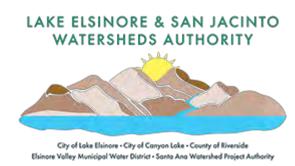
Algae Harvester

- AECOM Algae Harvester
- 1.5 million City funding
- 1.5 million Prop 1 Round 2 Grant
- Currently in the planning phase









California Resilience Challenge

LESJWA Grant Proposal

Rachel Gray, LESJWA Authority Administrator LESJWA Board Meeting | October 19, 2023 Item No. 7.B.

Agenda

- California Resilience Challenge Overview
- Grant Proposal Concept
- Proposed Budget
- Proposed Schedule
- Next Steps



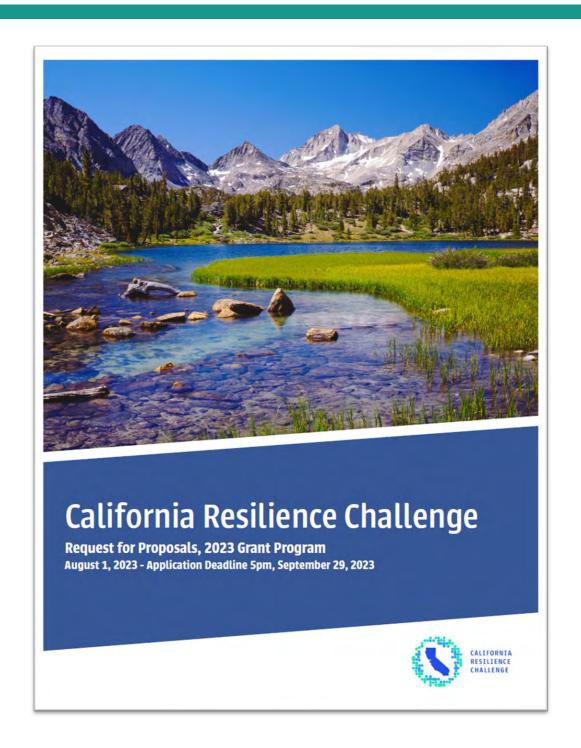
California Resilience Challenge

California Resilience Challenge is providing funding by means of its 2023 Grant Program for eligible resiliency planning projects aimed at improving local resilience to climate impacts:

- Drought
- Flooding
- Extreme Heat
- Wildfires
- Air and Water Quality

Selected plans will be **innovative and replicable** for other locations, will help **protect critical infrastructure**, **and will require broad community support**; significantly, the focus of the 2023 Grant Program will be **on projects that serve under-resourced communities**.

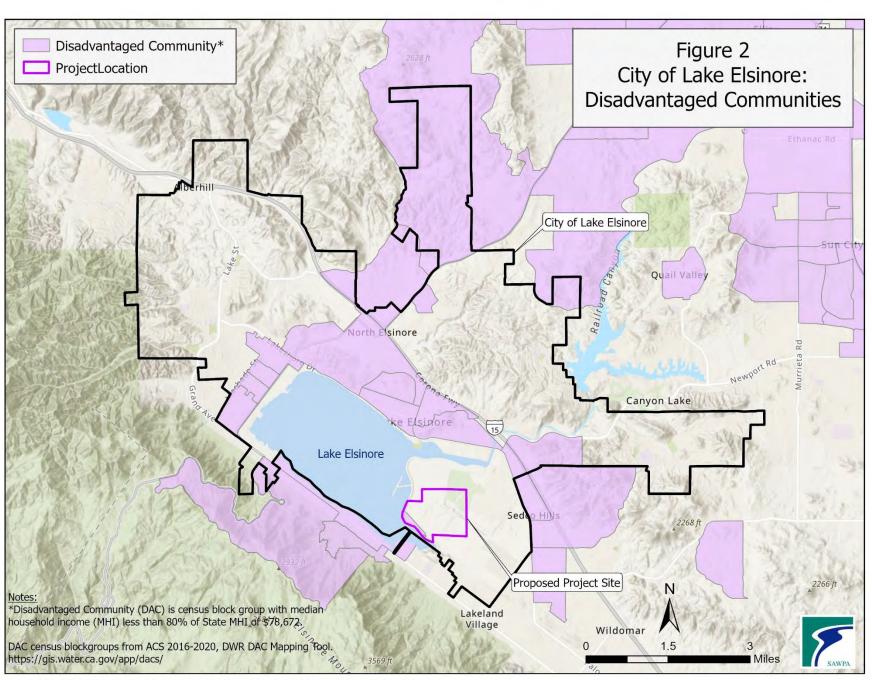
A key goal of the California Resilience Challenge is to **support a diversity of projects** in terms of scale, type, and readiness with a focus on supporting planning projects that could fast track implementation.



California Resilience Challenge

Project Evaluation Criteria:

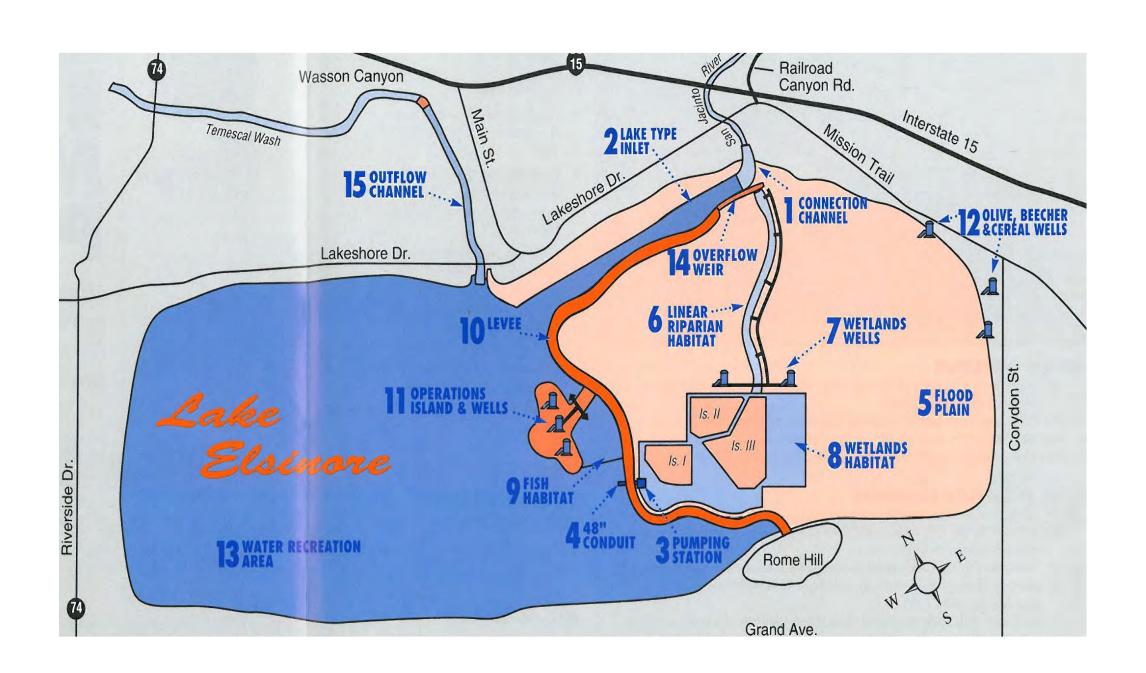
- Community Support:
 - Letters of Support:
 - Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA)
 - Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force
 - Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD)
 - County of Riverside
 - City of Lake Elsinore
 - Eastern Municipal Water District
 - City of Canyon Lake
- Benefit Under-Resourced Communities
- Impact and Sustainability
- Collaboration
- Co-Benefits



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Grant Proposal Concept

- Feasibility analysis for a treatment wetlands located on the southeastern corner of Lake Elsinore, designed to achieve nutrient removal of both nitrogen and phosphorus (N and P) in recirculated lake water.
- Excess nutrients in the lake from watershed runoff and reclaimed water addition provides food for hazardous algal blooms (HABs) to grow and persist at levels that exceed illness risk thresholds for swimming beach notification or closure.
- LESJWA's preliminary project concept envisions repurposing the existing "Back Bay" wetlands which are currently not used to treat any inflowing runoff or recirculated lake water.
- Climate change impacts of extreme heat and extended drought cause increased air and water temperature creating conditions that favor exacerbated growth of HABs over other algae.
- Monitoring samples collected in recent years found concentrations of cyanotoxins exceeding "Danger" thresholds suggested in state guidance for recreational inland waters.
- Protecting Lake Elsinore as a water contact recreational body is important to the surrounding disadvantaged community because swimming and other activities can help individuals manage health risks associated with prolonged periods of extreme heat.
- The project would also aim to increase recreational access in the southeastern shoreline and support environmental education opportunities to schools throughout the region by incorporating features such informational trails and floating wetland treatment islands.



Proposed Budget

Cost Description	Total						
Task 1: Project Management	\$14,660						
Task 2: Engagement: meetings and stakeholder coordination	\$15,660						
Task 3: Site Characterization	\$41,000						
Task 4: Benchscale Experiment	\$65,200						
Task 5: Feasibility Analysis	\$34,480						
Task 6: Plan Development and Approval	\$28,900						
Total	\$199,900						

Proposed Schedule

	Task	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
1	Project Management																	
1.1	Execute Agreements																	
1.2	PM																	
1.3	Invoicing					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2	Engagement																	
3	Site Characterization						TM-1											
4	Benchscale Experiment											TM-2						
5	Feasibility Analysis														TM-3			
6	Plan Development and Approval															D-FS		F-FS

Next Steps

September 29, 2023: RFP closes

October-November 2023: Proposals are reviewed and evaluated

December 2023: Winning grantees selected, and all applicants notified of status

February 2024: LESJWA Board approves Grant Agreement

February 2024: LESJWA Board approved contract with Consultant to perform the scope of work

March 2024: Grant awards announced at Showcase & Reception, time and location TBD

Thank You

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