



**RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: January 28, 2020 - REVISED

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertised
Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez		PHONE: (559) 624-7010		

SUBJECT: Reject Bids Received and Authorize Re-bid of the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport Project

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Reject all bids received and opened on October 31, 2019, for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Project; and
2. Approve the re-advertisement for bids for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport Project subject to revision in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration direction; and
3. Authorize the Chair to sign the plans and specifications for the project so that they may be updated to reflect the current period of advertisement; and
4. Reaffirm the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines. CEQA Guidelines Secs. 15 Cal. Code Reg. Section 15301(f) Existing Facility for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport Project.

SUMMARY:

Staff is requesting that bids received on October 31, 2019, for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport project, which include installation of an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS), Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI), and Runway End Indicator Lights (REIL), be rejected. Bids received for the project exceeded allotted grant and local funds by more than \$230,000, which is more than 59% over budget. Discussion with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and project engineer Wadell Engineering Corporation on January 9, 2020, indicated that

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re-bidding the project would likely decrease project costs and bring the project within the range of budgetary constraints.

Federal grant funding of \$359,766 for this project is provided by an FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant (AIP Grant No. 3-06-0266-009-2017). A Caltrans Division of Aeronautics State Matching grant is matching at 5% of the FAA grant (or approximately 4.5% of the project costs), or \$17,988 under TC Agreement No. 28847. The County has also allocated local funds at approximately \$22,000.

Bids received for the project on October 2019 were in excess of \$630,000; well above allocated project grant funds and budget. A total of two bids were received from DACO Construction / DEG Enterprises and Royal Electric Corporation. A summary of the bids received for the project as well the Engineer's Estimate and allocated grant funds are presented in the table below.

Contractor	Bid
DACO Construction Co. / DEG Enterprises (low bid)	\$636,300.00
Royal Electric Corporation	\$679,111.00
Grant Funds and Engineer's Estimate	Amount
Engineer's Estimate (from 2017)	\$299,893.75
Allocated Funds (FAA AIP, State Matching Grant, Local Match)	\$399,740.00
Funding Deficit Between Grant Funds and Low Bid	\$236,560.00

As these bids are both significantly greater than allocated funding and significantly beyond the engineer's estimate, the FAA, the designer, and County staff are in agreement that the bids should be rejected and the project rebid. As part of this rebid, the FAA has directed that the County should remove the base AWOS-AV system and include it as an alternate. The AWOS-III system will still be included as a second alternate. In this way, the FAA and designer believe that we may have increased interest from electrical contractors and could easily remove the AWOS system from the award if necessary to keep the project within allocated funds. Further, staff will modify the bid form to more clearly and explicitly indicate that the PAPI lights are to be county furnished and contractor installed.

In accordance with direction provided by the FAA, staff are also requesting that the categorical exemption be re-affirmed. This request is being made as the categorical exemption was last affirmed in late 2017. The FAA is requesting a more current affirmation for the categorical exemption.

In order to minimize the possibility of bid-protest and to provide for greater flexibility, staff have revised the specifications and bid form to list that the AWOS-AV system as an additive project element and that the furnishing of an AWOS-III is an additive alternate. This change will allow the County to determine whether or not it is desirable to proceed with the installation of the AWOS system following the receipt

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of bid results and will allow additional flexibility if it is possible to procure the AWOS III system within budget. The PAPI lights will be furnished by the County and thus the construction services that are being requested are largely the installation of electrical infrastructure.

Background

The FAA provides capital outlay for various qualifying projects via the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). The County was the recipient of a 2015 AIP grant for the purpose of designing navigation aids at Sequoia Field; AIP Project No. 3-06-0266-008-2015 (Tulare County Agreement No. 27311). The navigational aids that are to be constructed are Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI), Runway End Identification Lights (REIL), and an Automated Weather Observatory (AWOS). The design portion of this project was previously completed via a previous AIP grant and was performed by consultant Robert Wadell of Wadell Engineering Corporation; a corporation specializing in the practice of civil engineering as it relates to airport development. The Caltrans Division of Aeronautics provides State Matching grants for AIP projects to assist with construction costs. The local match from the sponsor, in this instance the County, is required as a provision of the FAA AIP grant.

The project was originally bid in September 2017, however due to a sole sourcing protest filed with the FAA and the County, it was necessary to reject all bids at that time. Resource Management Agency (RMA) staff then procured the project element that was contested, the LED PAPI lights independently of a contractor. By furnishing the LED PAPIs, any potential bid protest related to the sourcing of the PAPIs would be eliminated. The October 2019 bid was completed after acquisition of the LED PAPI lights and at a time when Caltrans State Matching grant funds were secured. However, based on these rejected bids, the FAA issued the grant agreement as described above for the construction project so the County would not lose more than \$100,000 of entitlement funds which were set to expire.

The FAA requires that the County bid the project and submit the results and a resolution identifying the prospective awardee to the FAA as part of the contract award recommendation process. Following the FAA's receipt of these documents, staff will return to the Board to approve and authorize the grant agreement with the FAA.

The Navigation Aids construction at Sequoia Field Airport will provide improvements to airport infrastructure and will further aid in the modernization of Sequoia Field, which in turn will help attract traffic and tenants to the airport.

RMA Staff is working closely with the FAA Western Pacific Regional Office (AIP Grant Administrator) to ensure that the project is within budget and the appropriate guidelines established by FAA protocols.

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FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

Total Net County Cost is estimated at \$21,986, which was included in the approved FY19/20 budget. An additional \$25,000 was budgeted as a General Fund contribution for potential acquisition of an improved Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS). RMA staff will bring the AWOS purchase back for separate consideration upon receipt of a successful bid.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

County's five-year strategic plan includes an Economic Well-Being initiative to promote economic development. This project would encourage economic growth at Sequoia Field consistent with the County General Plan, promote tourist opportunities, and would help attract business interests to Sequoia Field.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

FOR 

Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

RS:rm/as

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s): Attachment A – Categorical Exemption for Sequoia Field

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF REJECT BIDS) Resolution No. _____
RECEIVED AND AUTHORIZE RE-BID OF)
THE NAVIGATION AIDS AT SEQUOIA)
FIELD AIRPORT PROJECT)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 28, 2020,
BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

1. Rejected all bids received and opened on October 31, 2019 for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Project; and
2. Approved the re-advertisement for bids for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport Project subject to revision in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration direction; and
3. Authorized the Chair to sign the plans and specifications for the project so that they may be updated to reflect the current period of advertisement; and
4. Reaffirmed the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines. CEQA Guidelines Secs. 15 Cal. Code Reg. Section 15301(f) Existing Facility for the Navigation Aids at Sequoia Field Airport Project.

Attachment “A”

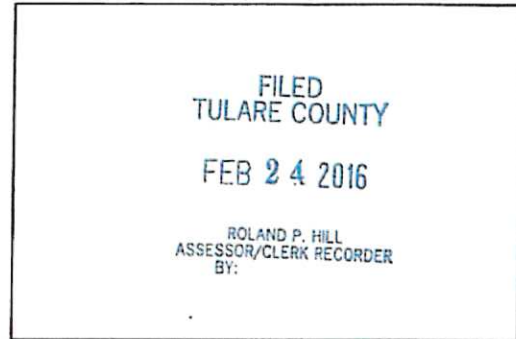
Categorical Exemption for Sequoia Field

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, California 93291



Lead Agency: Tulare County – Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277-9394 Phone: (559) 624-7000

Applicant(s): Tulare County – Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277-9394 Phone: (559) 624-7000

Activity/Project Title: Installation of Weather Reporting Equipment (AWOS AV-1) and Runway 13/31 Vertical/Visual Guidance System

Activity / Project Location – Specific: 36710 Road 112, Visalia, CA 93291, Sequoia Field, Tulare County

Activity / Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Tulare County, Monson Quad, Township 17 South, Range 24 East, Section 13, Mount Diablo Meridian (MDM)

Activity / Project Location – City: N/A

Activity / Project Location - County: Tulare County (unincorporated area); see Airport Layout Plan Map included as Exhibit “A” made a part hereof.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Activity / Project: The project includes the installation of Weather Reporting Equipment (AWOS AV-1) and Runway 13/31 Vertical/Visual Guidance System. These systems include the following navigation aids: (1) A new Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS); (2) Two Box LED Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) serving both ends of Runway 13-31; and (3) LED Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL) serving both ends of Runway 13-31.

Exempt Status:

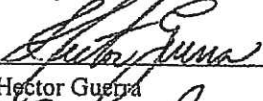
- Ministerial (PRC Sections 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (PRC Sections 21080(b)(3);15269(a));
- Emergency Project (PRC Sections 21080(b)(4);15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemptions: (14 Cal. Code Reg. Section 15301(f) (Existing Facility));
- General Rule Exemption (14 Cal. Code Regs. Section 15061(b)(3)) (No Possibility of Significant Impact);
- Statutory Exemptions: N/A

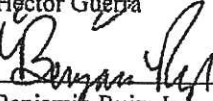
Reasons Why Activity / Project are Exempt from CEQA: This action is consistent with CEQA Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (f) Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, or topographical features including navigational devices. The project includes installation of safety equipment within the bounds of an existing facility. The project will not result in significant adverse impacts on the environment; in fact, the project will increase the safety of airport patrons and workers. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15301 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Activity / Project: County of Tulare by Board of Supervisors

Activity / Project Representative: Ross Miller, Engineer IV

Area Code/Telephone: (559) 624-7070

Signature:  Date: 2/3/16 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

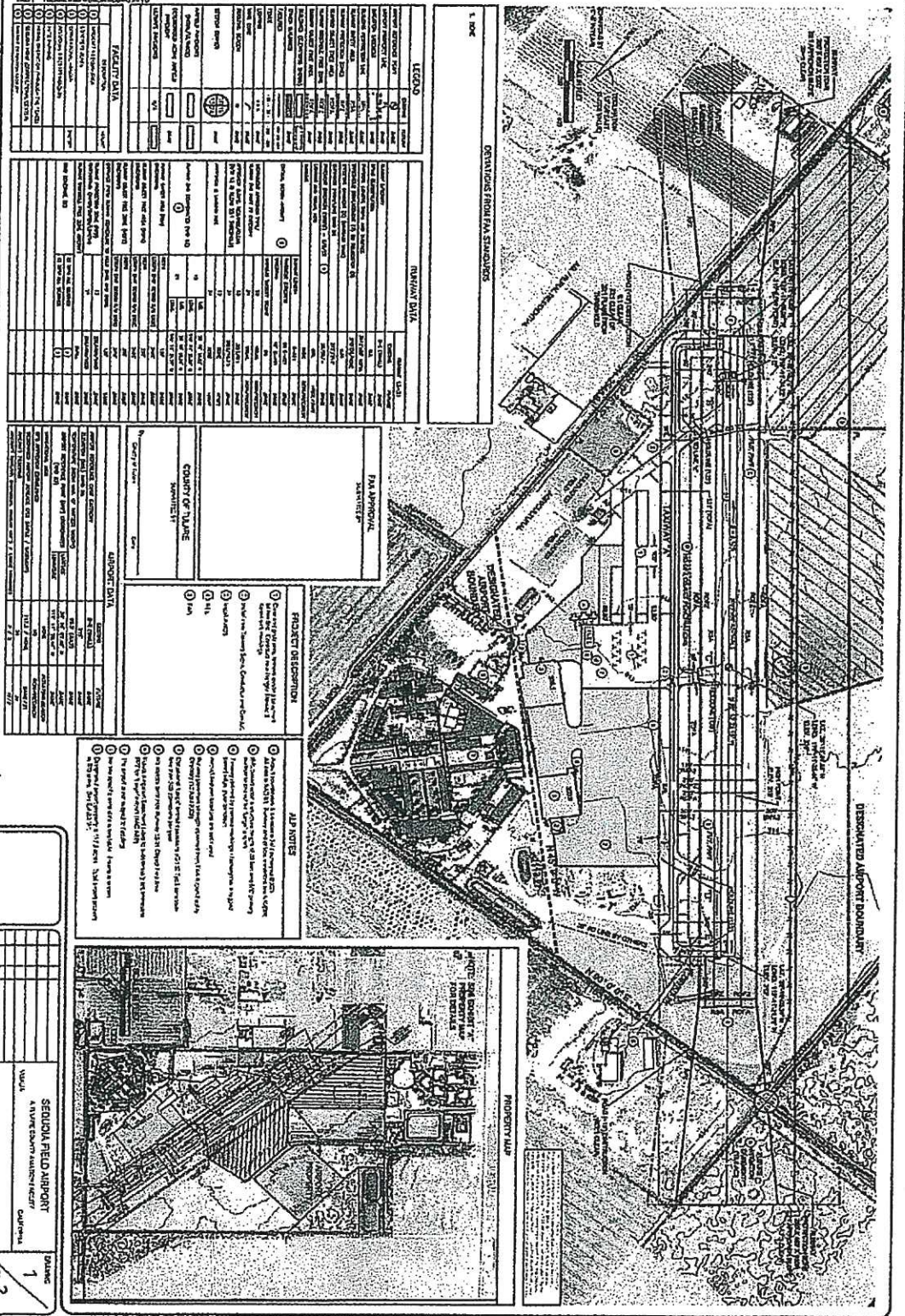
Signature:  Date: 2/3/16 Title: Interim Director and Environmental Assessment Officer
Benjamin Ruiz, Jr.

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR:

Signed by Applicant

EXHIBIT "A"



LEGEND	
1	Proposed Runway
2	Proposed Taxiway
3	Proposed Apron
4	Proposed Ramp
5	Proposed Parking
6	Proposed Building
7	Proposed Utility
8	Proposed Fencing
9	Proposed Signage
10	Proposed Landscape
11	Proposed Lighting
12	Proposed Security
13	Proposed Fire Protection
14	Proposed Stormwater Management
15	Proposed Air Quality
16	Proposed Noise Abatement
17	Proposed Safety
18	Proposed Emergency Services
19	Proposed Access
20	Proposed Security
21	Proposed Safety
22	Proposed Emergency Services
23	Proposed Access
24	Proposed Security
25	Proposed Safety
26	Proposed Emergency Services
27	Proposed Access
28	Proposed Security
29	Proposed Safety
30	Proposed Emergency Services

PROPERTY DATA	
Parcel No.	
Area	
Owner	
Address	
City	
County	
State	
Zip	
Phone	
Other	
Map	
Scale	
Date	
Author	
Checker	
Appr.	
Project No.	
Sheet No.	
Total Sheets	
Scale	
Date	
Author	
Checker	
Appr.	
Project No.	
Sheet No.	
Total Sheets	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
1	General Description
2	Specific Description
3	Scope of Work
4	Objectives
5	Deliverables
6	Assumptions
7	Risks
8	Dependencies
9	Constraints
10	Stakeholders
11	Communication
12	Reporting
13	Review
14	Approval
15	Signatures
16	Comments
17	Revisions
18	History
19	Metadata
20	Version Control
21	Change Management
22	Configuration Management
23	Quality Management
24	Project Management
25	Team Management
26	Resource Management
27	Financial Management
28	Legal Management
29	Contract Management
30	Insurance Management

