City of Tacoma

Resolution No.: _____

Meeting Date: _____

Contract and Award Letter
Purchase Resolution —Exhibit "A"

TO: Board of Contracts and Awards

FROM: Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Environmental Services
Brandi Lubliner, P.E., Principal Engineer, Environmental Services

Initial GMS Initial RAC

COPY: City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and Stan Rowden II, Senior Buyer, Finance/Purchasing.

SUBJECT: Stormwater Characterization Monitoring for Contaminants of Emerging Concerns Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Roster Contract No. CW2265700 – January 06, 2026, City Council

DATE: December 4, 2025

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY: The Environmental Services (ES) Department requests a contract amendment to CW2265700 with Herrera Environmental Consultants, Inc. (Herrera), Seattle, WA, to extend the timeframe to April 30, 2028, and increase funds by $1,589,181, plus applicable taxes, to a total of $2,799,468, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the ES Stormwater Fund 4301, to continue the field study to monitor stormwater and storm sediments for contaminants of emerging concern (CECs).

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.

These strategic policies are best aligned with this request due to toxic contaminants connection to human and salmon wellbeing, and Tribal sustenance. Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and a newly identified contaminant of concern called 6PPD-quinone (6PPDQ), identified by University of Washington-Tacoma (UWT) in December 2020, are believed to be present at varied concentrations in urban stormwater but not yet well characterized. 6PPDQ comes from a preservative used in rubber, particularly vehicle tires, and is incredibly toxic to coho salmon and other Washington endangered and threatened fish in the Puget Sound.

BACKGROUND: ES received funds from the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to conduct this monitoring of CECs in Municipal Stormwater Separate Stormwater Systems (MS4s) associated with urban land uses and make this information available to Permittees for use in their modeling and pollutant management efforts. This work will include sampling CECs including 6PPDQ, vehicle-derived constituents, PFAS, tire and road wear particles (TRWP) and microplastics.

Resolution No. 41480 authorized CW2265700 to begin this stormwater CECs monitoring project in 2024. This amendment extends the timeframe and increases funds by $1,589,181, bringing the projected total contract amount to $2,799,468 to continue the second phase of the project. Phase one of the project is nearly complete. There are 16 monitoring stations built, and monitoring has successfully started. ES will continue to manage this project for another year and a half of data collection to gather the full intended two years of samples. The ES laboratory is the primary chemistry laboratory for the project. The UWT research scientists and several other

laboratories are subcontracted for analysis of microplastics. Ecology is fully funding the study costs. A portion of Ecology's funds will be used to cover ES laboratory costs.

A clear understanding of the abundance of these CECs in stormwater and storm carried sediments will allow us to refine our stormwater management planning. Specifically, findings from the monitoring study will be used in the City of Tacoma's new modeling tool developed in the Urban Watersheds Protection Plan (UWP Plan). The UWP Plan prioritizes sub-basin areas across the city for additional stormwater management based on Tacoma Equity Index, known areas of degraded surface water quality, and critical areas overlays to prioritize human and environmental wellbeing for future stormwater management. Actions include source control activities to track and stop sources of toxics into the City's stormwater systems. Other actions include building or implementing more stormwater best management practices to prevent and reduce concentrations across different land uses of the City.

ISSUE: The Washington State Department of Health, Ecology, WSDOT, and other agencies are evaluating environmental impacts to salmon and other affected fisheries, Tribal food security, human health, and receiving waters for many of these CECs, and the EPA and Ecology have begun to add requirements to draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits.

ALTERNATIVES: If the contract is not approved, the funds will be returned to Ecology. The obligation of the field study is too great for ES staff to accomplish without consultant support. We will lose the opportunity to gain knowledge of CECs in our regional stormwater and storm sediments. No data would be gathered to inform environmental and human prioritization metrics for stormwater management.

COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS: ES solicited engineering and architectural services through the citywide Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Roster. Three consulting firms were selected from the A&E Roster and subsequently evaluated to find the most qualified consultant for this project. This evaluation process resulted in Herrera as the most qualified. The other firms: Carollo Engineers Inc., Floyd-Snider Inc., and Landau Associates Inc. had little to no experience sampling several of the novel parameters in stormwater.

CONTRACT HISTORY: This request is for Amendment No. 1 to add the second year of monitoring and reporting.

SUSTAINABILITY: The following sustainability factors will be informed by this project. Findings will be used to inform policy on:

- Pollutant releases, especially persistent bio-accumulative toxics (PBTs)
- Toxicity of products used
- Waste generation
- Recycled content
- Depletion of natural resources
- Potential impact on human health and the environment
- Impact on staff time and labor

EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE: Not applicable - Service contract - EIC Regulations are not yet established.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE: Not applicable to this contract.

FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
ES Stormwater Fund 4301	ENV-03004-11	5310100	$1,589,181
TOTAL			**Up to $1,589,181**

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Washington State Department of Ecology	521900	6232300	($1,589,181)
TOTAL			**Up to ($1,589,181)**

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: $1,000,000

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? No.

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. The cost impact will be approximately $1,000,000 for 2026 and the remainder will be in 2027-28. The Stormwater Fund will absorb this impact with existing planning dollars. The difference between the Ecology source funds and expenditures in this amendment, $510,575 are being used to fund ES laboratory analysis of samples.