

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
FOR
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

**LISTED BELOW ARE THE QUESTIONS (Q) SUBMITTED BY
POTENTIAL BIDDERS FOR THE**

**SLIP-OUT REPAIR AND BANK STABILIZATION NEAR 1780 HIGGINS CANYON
ROAD**

**COUNTY PROJECT NO. 08H17
PROJECT FILE NO. E5082**

**THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
HAS PROVIDED RESPONSES (R) TO THE QUESTIONS BELOW**

- Q1 Sheet C402, Detail 4, can the contractor elect to use 1/2" thick HDPE shims in between stacked lagging instead of casting the lagging with weep holes?
R1 This modification is not accepted as an alternate design.
- Q2 There are 4 trees marked explicitly for removal only. Within the plans on sheet C-101, the marked trees are 206, 209, 222, and 208. On the same plan sheet, in the bottom left corner, the Tree Survey Table lists 206, 209, 222, and 203 for removal. Is the fourth tree to be removed #208 (20" DBH) or #203 (12" DBH)?
R2 Note that the ID for trees 211 and 214 have been provided as 511 and 514. 203 requires removal without salvage, 208 requires removal with salvage. Also note, 202 will require removal with salvage.
- Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.*
- Q3 Are the other 6 trees marked on C-101 being removed and salvaged for pole reuse? I want to confirm, as the callout in the plans indicates they may be marked for trimming.
R3 Please see response to Q2. Trimming may be required as part of removal or salvaging.
- Q4 What are the specifications regarding stumps?
R4 All stumps shall be removed unless authorized by the Engineer.

The Contractor is advised that all trees designated for removal which are less than six inches (6") in trunk diameter, as well as stumps of any diameter, shall be considered as included under the Contract lump sum price paid for this item "Demolition, Clearing and Grubbing," and no additional compensation will be allowed therefore. Trees six inches (6") or greater in trunk diameter shall be paid for per each under this item of work, "Remove Tree (6" to 24")."

Q5 The planting plan shows plant spacing, but does not include quantities. Can you provide quantities of each plant species?

R5 *Quantities are subject to verification by the contractor but are estimated based on spacing and the square footage of applicable plantings. The Contractor shall adjust quantities up or down as needed based on their desktop and field verification.*

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Not Fewer Than</u> | <u>Calculation Basis</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <i>Arroyo Willow</i> | 406 | <i>4.5 SF per plant across 1,825 SF</i> |
| <i>Red Osier Dogwood</i> | 406 | <i>4.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |
| <i>Twinberry</i> | 335 | <i>12.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |
| <i>California Blackberry</i> | 335 | <i>12.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |
| <i>Thimbleberry</i> | 930 | <i>4.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |
| <i>Mugwort</i> | 930 | <i>4.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |
| <i>Bee Plant</i> | 930 | <i>4.5 SF per plant across 4,182 SF</i> |

Q6 Specification Section 2. Bidding states that we can:

2-2. In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle Fleet Compliance Certification

In conformance with Title 13 CCR § 2449 et seq., bidders must submit the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form, list each fleet used by the contractor and the subcontractor to perform work. A copy of a valid Certificate of Reported Compliance for each fleet listed on the form must be submitted with the bid or within five (5) calendar days of bid opening. Failure to list a fleet used by the contractor or subcontractor to perform work on the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form may result in a nonresponsive bid. Failure to submit the Certificate of Reported Compliance for a fleet listed on the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form may result in a nonresponsive bid.

Do we email those certificates to both of your attention post bid? Or do we deliver hard copies to your office?

This paragraph also says that we need to submit an “In-Use..... Vehicle List form” with our bid. I see the Compliance Certification (page 36) but not a form to list out ourselves and subcontractors with our certification numbers. Will you be supplying us with another form to submit with our bid? Or do we just need to complete the Compliance Certification (page 36) with our bid?

R6 *Contractors can email the “Certificate of Reported Compliance Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation” to ghan@smcgov.org and wng@smcgov.org.*

Specification Section 2-2 has been updated to:

2-2. In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle Fleet Compliance Certification

In conformance with Title 13 CCR § 2449 et seq., bidders must submit the ~~In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form~~, list each fleet used by the contractor and the subcontractor to perform work In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Compliance Certification. A copy of a valid Certificate of Reported Compliance Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation for ~~each fleet listed on the form~~ all fleets meeting this criteria used by the contractor and the subcontractor to perform work must be submitted with the bid or within five (5) calendar days ~~three (3) working days~~ of bid opening. ~~Failure to list a fleet used by the contractor or subcontractor to perform work on the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form may result in a nonresponsive bid.~~ Failure to submit the Certificate of Reported Compliance for a fleet listed on the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Vehicle List form may result in a nonresponsive bid.

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.

- Q7 This is a Federal Aid project, so I have reviewed the Exhibit 12-G : Required Federal-Aid Contract Language, that is include with the specification book. Page 6 of 21, section F, talks about completing Exhibit 15-G and LAPM Exhibit 9-I within 5 days after bid opening. I cannot find these forms in the spec book and I do not see a DBE goal listed anywhere. Are these forms applicable for this project? If so, how can we get a copy and how would you like us to submit them to you post bid?

F. Commitment and Utilization

The Agency's DBE program must include a monitoring and enforcement mechanism to ensure that DBE commitments reconcile to DBE utilization.

The bidder shall complete and sign Exhibit 15-G: Construction Contract DBE Commitment included in the contract documents regardless of whether DBE participation is reported. The bidder shall provide written confirmation from each DBE that the DBE is participating in the Contract. LAPM Exhibit 9-I: DBE Confirmation or equivalent form and DBE's quote must be submitted. The written confirmation must be submitted no later than 4pm on the 5th day after bid opening. If a DBE is participating as a joint venture partner, the bidder shall submit a copy of the joint venture agreement.

If the DBE Commitment form, Exhibit 15-G, is not submitted with the bid, it must be completed and submitted by all bidders to the Agency within five (5) days of bid opening. If the bidder does not submit the DBE Commitment form within the specified time, the Agency will find the bidder's bid nonresponsive.

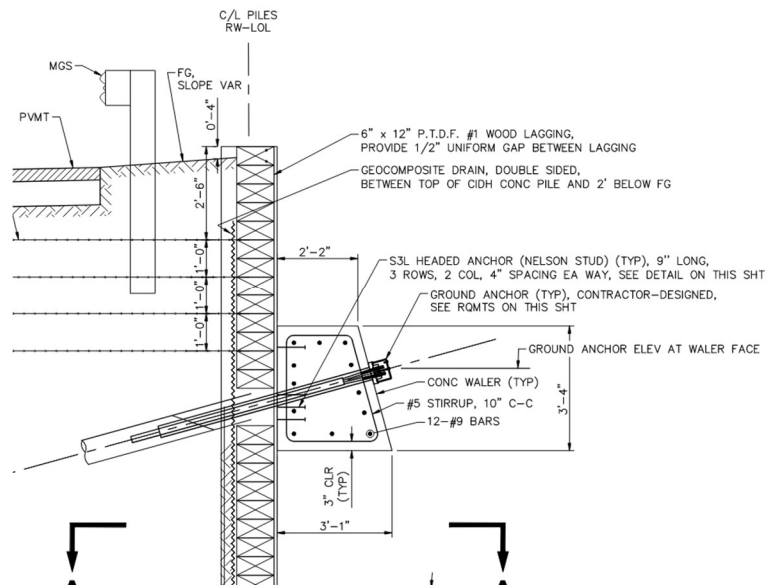
- R7 *Exhibit 15-G and Exhibit 9-I are currently inactive and will not be required for submission. There are no DBE goals for this project.*

- Q8 Exhibit 12-B: Bidder's List of Subcontracts, Part 1 and Part 2. The contractor's check-off list states that these 2 forms need to be submitted with our bid. These forms take quite a bit of time to pull together on bid day. Part 1 is another subcontractor listing, which is doable on bid day if necessary. However, Part 2 is a list of all subcontractors who have submitted a quote but not used for the project. Is there any way that we can get both of these forms to you completed by 5 calendar days after the bid opening? That would help us get together the best bid amount we can on bid day.

- R8 *Exhibit 12-B Part 1 and Part 2 can be submitted three (3) working days after bid opening by end of business day on Monday February 2, 2026.*

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.

Q9 Can we use pressure treated timber lagging 12" similar to what is attached for reference in lieu of the concrete lagging?



R9 *Timber lagging is not accepted as a substitute for concrete lagging.*

Q10 Can we increase the size of the soldier pile steel beams to rid of the steel cage in the toe? If so what is the minimum size of beam?

R10 *No. This modification is not accepted as an alternate design.*

Q11 Will we be permitted to use wet hole concrete placement method in the event that too much ground water infiltrates the shaft?

R11 *Wet hole concrete placement would be an acceptable method if groundwater cannot be sufficiently removed from the borehole. If the borehole cannot be dewatered, Contractor shall provide a plan detailing alternate means to complete the work including additional inspections and requirements in full compliance with the Standard Specifications.*

Q12 Will the existing over head utilities be removed/ rerouted before the retaining wall construction begins?

R12 *No, the existing overhead utilities will remain in place at their current locations.*

Q13 Do you have an updated form as a result of EO 11246 being revoked on January 21, 2025 by EO 14173?

My human resources department is letting us know that the following forms may be outdated. I have put a red box around the items that have changed.

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE
WITH LAWS PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION**

We are in compliance with the **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY REQUIREMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246, TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, THE CALIFORNIA FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING ACT**, any other Federal or State laws relating to equal employment opportunity and the provisions of **Title 2, Chapter 2.50 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code** and the Board established guidelines implementing them.

We will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on **race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, or sex**. This pertains to the areas of **recruitment, hiring, training, upgrading, transfer, compensation and termination**.

1. Yes No Have you read and are you acquainted with the **Equal Employment Opportunity Requirement of the Executive Order 11246, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the California Fair Employment Practices Act and Title 2, Chapter 2.50 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code?**
2. Yes No Does your employment advertising state that you

R13 Specifications have been updated to:

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE
WITH LAWS PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION**

We are in compliance with the ~~EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY REQUIREMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246~~, **TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, THE CALIFORNIA FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING ACT**, any other Federal or State laws **and any effective and applicable Executive Orders** relating to equal employment opportunity and the provisions of **Title 2, Chapter 2.50 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code** and the Board established guidelines implementing them.

We will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on **race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, or sex**. This pertains to the areas of **recruitment, hiring, training, upgrading, transfer, compensation and termination**.

1. Yes No Have you read and are you acquainted with the ~~Equal Employment Opportunity Requirement of the Executive Order 11246~~, **Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the California Fair Employment Practices Act and Title 2, Chapter 2.50 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code?**

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.

Q14 Do you have a Geotech for the project that you can send over? Please advise.
R14 The geotechnical report has been uploaded in Public Purchase and on the projects out to bid page. The out to bid weblink can be found here:

<https://www.smcgov.org/publicworks/slip-out-repair-and-bank-stabilization-near-1780-higgins-canyon-road>

Q15 The specifications, Section 11-3 Temporary Creek Diversion System, says to design the system for 50 CFS. Plan Sheet C-400 shows a minimum 24” diameter flexible drainpipe. These two seem to be conflict as it’s unlikely that a

single 24" pipe will carry 50 CFS of gravity flow. Can you clarify, if it's your intent to carry 50 CFS, perhaps any reference to pipe size should be deleted from the plans?

R15 The drainage pipe shall be a minimum of 24" diameter. Larger diameter pipes or multiple 24" diameter pipes may be used.

Q16 Section 31-1 Rootwads of the specification's states "...Helical Anchors for securing the Rootwads will follow the requirements in Section 46 Ground Anchors." Section 46 is a rather robust specification for structural ground anchors on the soldier pile wall—it includes a stamped design by the contractor, rather extensive proof testing, etc. Is the reference correct and will the helical log anchors really be held to the Ground Anchor Spec?

R16 Section 46 is not applicable to rootwad helical anchors. Helical anchors shall be installed per the Rootwad Notes on sheet C-404.

Q17 Minimum clear working distance from electric lines is dependent on the voltage of the line. What is the voltage of the overhead electric lines that have "HIGH VOLTAGE" labels on the power poles?

R17 The voltage is unknown at this time and the Contractor shall coordinate with the utility provider to work around existing utilities. Existing utilities will not be relocated.

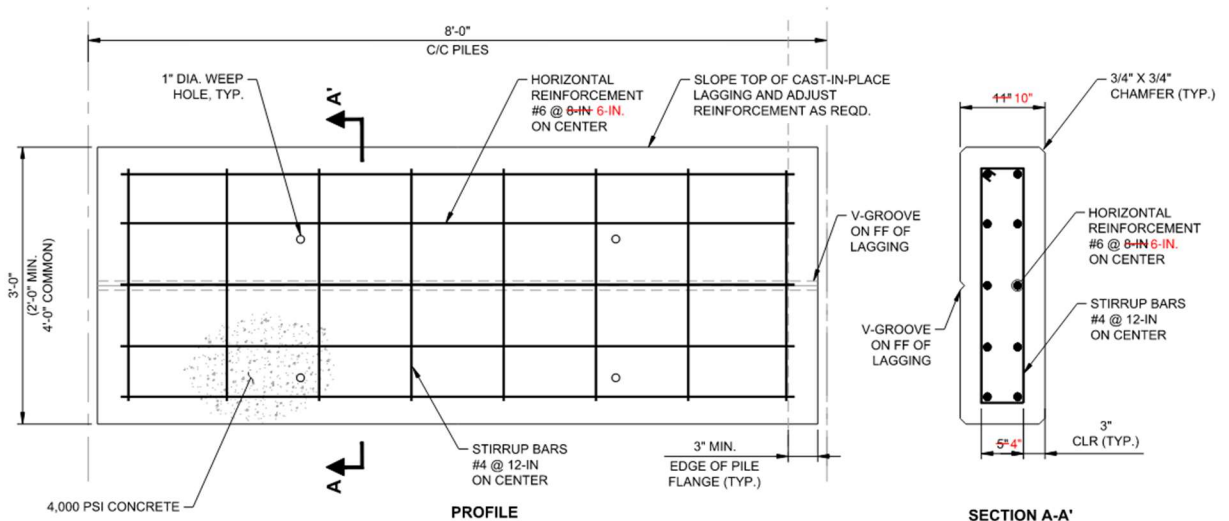
Q18 There is a lower level overhead line that is located approximately 8-13 feet below the high voltage lines. Is this line another electric line or is it a communications line? If so, what is the voltage of this line?

R18 The specific function of the line is unknown at this time and the Contractor shall coordinate with the utility provider to work around existing utilities. Existing utilities will not be relocated.

Q19 Drawing C-401 specifies a HP12x84 steel pile and Section 4 of Drawing shows a 11" concrete lagging width. These sizes are not compatible. The distance between the inner edges of the flanges is less than 11". Additionally, the retaining wall plan on Drawing C-200 shows a curved wall. If the lagging is not at a 90 angle to the pile web (straight wall), then the thickness of the lagging that can fit within the pile flanges will need to be reduced even more.

R19 To account for a reduction in allowable thickness due to the flange spacing (approximately 10.9") and the curvature of the wall, the Contractor may reduce the lagging thickness where required to 10" provided 3" of clear space is still provided between the concrete face and the rebar cage, and the horizontal reinforcement is reduced to 6" spacing instead of 8" spacing. Please see detail below.

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.



4 **CONCRETE LAGGING**
NOT TO SCALE

Q20 The thickness of the lagging does not allow for the lagging to be installed from the front face of the wall in a top down placement (which is the typical installation method). Precast lagging would need to be installed between the piles in a bottom up placement. This would require temporary lagging behind the piles to facilitate excavation to bottom of concrete lagging elevation prior to placement of the concrete lagging full height. Temporary lagging would also be required for the Cast In Place reinforced concrete lagging. Please confirm that it is acceptable to leave the temporary lagging in place upon completion of the concrete lagging installation.

R20 *Temporary lagging may remain in place provided the lagging and placement details are approved. The Contractor should provide a more detailed RFI describing the plan in detail and how it will allow drainage through the wall and lagging. There shall not be voids between the temporary lagging and the permanent lagging and between the temporary lagging and the soil. Temporary lagging may not restrict groundwater flow through weep holes or spaces between the lagging. Temporary wood lagging is not permitted to remain in place.*

Q21 Is it acceptable to provide reinforced shotcrete, connected to the face of the steel piles with Nelson Studs, at the outer face of the piles instead of Cast In Place reinforced concrete lagging between the piles?

R21 *Reinforced shotcrete facing may be considered by the Engineer, provided a design of the proposed facing and nelson stud connection is provided by the Contractor. The Contractor should provide a more detailed RFI including: a complete design stamped by a California P.E. for the proposed facing and connection, details for construction, specifications for shotcrete including the mix design and installation, the connection to the steel piles with nelson studs, nozzleman certifications and experience, and construction sequencing.*

Q22 Piles 20 and 22 are located directly beneath the overhead lines and will require splices. Adjacent piles within the vicinity of the overhead lines will also be

affected. Please provide details for splicing the rebar cages. Please provide details for splicing the steel H-pile.

R22 The rebar may be spliced in accordance with ACI requirements. H-pile splicing shall be a full-penetration butt-weld per AWS D1.1.

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.

Q23 Drawing C-401 shows ground anchor unbond lengths of 12ft and 13ft for (#GA5-GA9 and #GA18-GA22) strand anchors. Per PTI, the minimum unbond length for strand anchors is 15 ft. Please advise.

R23 The unbonded length indicated is a minimum requirement. The unbonded length of strand anchor is permitted to be 15' in accordance with Post Tensioning Institute (PTI) requirements. Adequate bonding shall be provided to meet the design requirements.

Q24 Drawing C-100, Note 2: Please clarify.

1. Who replaces the utilities prior to installing the guardrail – the contractor or the utility owner?
2. If these utilities are to be replaced, then it makes more sense to do this work prior to performing any working on the new Retaining Walls as these utilities are currently in the way of the soldier beam/lagging/tie back work.

R24 The Contractor shall coordinate with the utility provider to work around existing utilities. Existing utilities will not be relocated.

Q25 Proposed K-Rail alignment: Drawing G-103 requires 10' min travel lane to be maintained but, from scaling the distance on G-108, the majority of the travel lane is closer to 8' wide. Please clarify.

1. At the west entrance, the proposed travel lane is less than 7' wide
2. At the east entrance, the proposed travel lane is less than 8' wide due to the drainage channel along the road edge

R25 The east and west entrances are provided as approximate locations. Contractor shall maintain 10' min. travel lane and adjust construction access. Contractor shall submit a Construction Access Plan and Traffic Control Plan with precise placement of traffic control devices and access locations.

Excavation or soil movement within the roadway may be required to support construction activities or maintain one unobstructed reversible ten feet (10') width traffic lane, including temporary support of excavation such as benching or shoring.

Q26 Given live poles are to be installed during dormancy and the planting tubes are to be installed and filled with soil during construction, would live stakes 4' long installed 3' into the ground be acceptable? The tubes are designed to extend below the engineered fill and into existing soil which would allow for root growth into parent material and successful tree establishment.

R26 The use of 4' live poles would not provide sufficient length to extend beyond the fill. The live pole must extend at least 1' into native soil (3' would be acceptable and preferred if possible) and extend beyond the final grade.

Please see Addendum No. 1 issued January 26, 2026.

- Q27 Existing Power Pole at approx. station 1+60 will need to be relocated prior to soldier beam and ground anchor install at this location. Please Reference Drawing C-200.
1. Piles P20, P21, P22 are located directly under the overhead wires. These piles require 30lf long steel beams. To drop the piles into the hole, we will first need to lift them approx. 35lf in the air which will bring the crane too close to the power lines
 2. Ground Anchor 21 is drilled underneath the power pole. It is approx. 5lf away from the pole and 6lf below grade. There is a strong possibility that the Ground Anchor will impact the pole.

R27 The existing overhead utilities will remain in place at their current locations. Regarding the ground anchor and pole obstruction, the Contractor shall coordinate with the utility owner to determine the precise depth for the pole (which is currently estimated to be 6' with a bottom elevation of ~187). The ground anchor is designed to be set at 185.6' and angled at approximately 20 degrees to achieve a depth at the approximate pole location of ~184.

- Q28 Will the County allow for a full roadway closure for multiple weeks in order for the temporary shoring wall to be constructed and deconstructed?

R28 Contractor is to submit proposal for road closure for County to evaluate during construction. Per the plans and specifications, one unobstructed, reversible lane shall be open at all times.

- Q29 Who bears the costs for testing on this project, specifically the requirements in Appendix G, QAP, the Contractor or the County?

R29 County will bear the cost for the first test. In the event that a test fails, any testing after the first shall be at the Contractor's expense.

All RFI requests were due by January 21, 2026 and the County provided responses on January 15, 2026, January 23, 2026, and January 29, 2026. The County will not be providing responses to additional RFI's.

Updated as of January 28, 2026 at 5:00 P.M.

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