Meeting: **Reservoir Committee & Authority Board Agenda Item 1.2** **November 6, 2026**

Subject: **Task Order Amendment for Barnard Construction Company**

Requested Action:

Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider increasing the previously authorized task order amendment with Barnard Construction Company by $610,000, from approximately $1.05M to $1.66M, inclusive of a $150,000 change order authority, to support geotechnical investigations on Authority owned property along the left abutment of the proposed Golden Gate Dam.

Detailed Description/Background:

At the August 2026 Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized $1.05M to support critical geotechnical investigations along the top of the ridge where the south end (left abutment) of the proposed Golden Gate Dam would be located. These investigations will help determine whether it is technically feasible to optimize the dam alignment, potentially shortening the dam and resulting in substantial construction cost savings. Given the magnitude of the potential savings relative to the cost of the investigations, obtaining the necessary geotechnical information is a high-value investment that could have a significant impact on the overall Project cost. Additionally, these investigations will provide valuable experience in planning and executing future geotechnical investigations, particularly in navigating the logistical, safety, and environmental compliance requirements.

The original budgetary estimate was developed based on a preliminary desktop review of the work. Since the August Board meeting, the investigations have been more thoroughly planned through procurement activities, site visits, coordination with drilling subcontractors, and environmental compliance planning. While the scope of the investigations has not materially changed, this planning identified additional logistical challenges associated with safely transporting equipment, personnel, and materials up the steep terrain while complying with environmental restrictions. As an example, for safety reasons, it was determined that winch-assisted access would be necessary to transport drilling equipment up and down the steep terrain to reach the investigation locations, an approach that was not anticipated in the original estimate. This approach is safer and more cost-effective than helicopter transport, the other practical alternative given the ground disturbance limitations established in the geotechnical investigation permits.

As a result of this planning, the estimated cost of Barnard's work has increased from $1.05M to $1.51M. Staff worked with Barnard to review and refine the proposed costs, including evaluating equipment needs, staffing levels, and anticipated durations, and has determined the proposed costs to be fair and reasonable as well

as comparable to past geotechnical efforts performed by the Project. The majority of the work will be compensated based on agreed-upon daily rates, with actual payments determined by the work performed within a not-to-exceed threshold. While staff has worked to manage costs, staff believes the proposed plan appropriately addresses worker safety, geotechnical data quality, and environmental compliance. Given the significant potential construction cost savings, these investigations warrant the investment necessary to perform the work safely and obtain reliable results.

Staff also recommends authorizing a $150,000 change order authority (COA) to address non-discretionary, unforeseen conditions, such as prolonged inclement weather or unanticipated environmental restrictions. Use of the COA would require approval by the Executive Director and would be limited to additional costs associated with completing the authorized scope of work. This brings the total requested task order authorization to $1.66M, an increase of $609,950 over the previously authorized amount described in the attachment.

The proposed 2026 budget reallocations to support the increased authorization are described in the attachment.

Prior Action:

August 2026: Approval of the mid-year 2026 budget review and work plan status update at the August 2026 Board meeting.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

The requested action will result in no change to the overall approved FY2026 budget that was adopted at the October 2025 Board meeting and revised at the August 2026 Board meeting. The increase of $609,950 is being funded by various underruns and deferred work as outlined in the attachments of this report. Any unspent funds, such as unreleased contingency, will roll over to the FY2027 budget.

Staff Contact:

Kyle Hughes and JP Robinette

Attachments:

Attachment A – Description of Budget Transfers

Attachment A: Description of Budget Transfers

Consultant	Description	Project No.	Project Name	Amount
Barnard	GGD Right Abutment	301	Preparing for Construction & Reservoir CMAR	$ 459,950
Barnard	Contingency on GGD Geotech Work	301	Preparing for Construction & Reservoir CMAR	$ 150,000
Brown & Caldwell	Extension of Staff Support	901	Project Management Support	$ (75,000)
Brown & Caldwell	Conditions Precedent Support	101	Key Agreements & Reports	$ (35,000)
Uncommitted	Land Management	302	Priority Acquisition & Land Management	$ (200,000)
Uncommitted	Improvements to Seaters	302	Priority Acquisition & Land Management	$ (150,000)
Uncommitted	Future Land Purchases	302	Priority Acquisition & Land Management	$ (99,950)
BBK	Phase 3 Contract Support	301	Preparing for Construction & Reservoir CMAR	$ (50,000)
			Net Change	$ -