



## **NEXT GENERATION PROJECT** **January 2021 Governing Board UPDATE:**

- **Tomales Agreement**

As part of the development process, MERA was approached by the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) to consider sharing a power trench with AT&T at the Tomales Site. This would eliminate the need for a full-length electrical trench for MERA, resulting in an environmental benefit as well as cost savings. AT&T's Contractor, JFC Construction Inc., has proposed charging MERA \$13,633 for materials and labor. AECOM has reviewed their construction estimates and their proposal and has estimated that accepting this proposal will reduce MERA's construction costs by an estimated \$62,848 in direct costs and reduced contractor markup. Funding will come from the Construction line item. This results in a minor change to our project description that reduces environmental impacts.

- **Bid Packages**

The Construction Phase of the MERA Next Gen Project has been separated into several Bid Packages. The eighteen sites are spread across these Bid Packages as nineteen projects, with Coyote Peak being separated as two projects (Road/Trenching and Site Development). The Governing Board already approved the release of Bid Package #1 (Civic Center, EOF and Mt Barnabe). As circumstances evolved, some of the packages were rearranged, resulting in the creation of Bid Package #1A. Bid Package #1A includes Dollar Hill, Mt. Tiburon, and Stewart Point sites and is being considered for release by the Governing Board on 01/27/21. Once the bidding window closes, MERA staff will return to the Governing Board with a recommendation for the award of the bid. With this approval, six of the nineteen projects will be moving to bid and construction.

- **Member Briefings**

MERA is holding a Member Briefing Presentation in January 2021. This will be an overview of the progress of the Next Gen System Project and other current MERA news. This will be held in two identical Zoom Meeting presentations. A short question and answer period will follow the briefing and MERA representatives will address any questions or concerns from members. Attendance from all member agencies is encouraged.

Our MERA team relies on the input and participation of all of our 25 member agencies!

**Please be sure to share the above project update with others at your agency.**

Questions? Contact Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen System David Jeffries at [dave@jeffriespsc.com](mailto:dave@jeffriespsc.com).

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