



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Pierson and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Robert DuBoux, Public Works Director/City Engineer

Approved by: Reva Feldman, City Manager

Date prepared: September 23, 2020 Meeting date: October 12, 2020

Subject: Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District Update

---

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** 1) Receive an update on the Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District; and 2) Provide direction to staff.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District is financed through special assessments placed on the properties within the Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District Boundary. There is specific funding amount available each year that was established when the district was formed. The funding is used to operate and maintain the dewatering equipment, perform water quality testing and performing capital improvement projects to improve and replace infrastructure.

Additional dewatering facilities and other enhancements to this district will be discussed during a staff presentation. These additional items are not within the current assessment district budget. If Council elects to do proceed with the additional dewatering facilities and other enhancements, additional funding would be needed above and beyond the amount that is generated from the current assessment district. This could include creating a new assessment district with additional assessments to provide additional funding to accommodate the additional dewatering facilities and other enhancements.

**WORK PLAN:** This item was included as item 8e in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

**DISCUSSION:** Following the activation of the Big Rock Mesa landslide in 1983, the County of Los Angeles (County) established the Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District (Assessment District) in 1989. The Assessment District provided permanent funding to maintain and monitor dewatering facilities with the purpose of reducing landslide movements. The County administered the Assessment District until 1991 when the City of Malibu (City) incorporated. A new assessment district was authorized in May 1998 under

City of Malibu Resolution No. 98-030. The City has since administered the Assessment District, utilizing consultants to maintain and monitor the district dewatering facilities.

The Big Rock Mesa Landslide District currently has the following dewatering and monitoring equipment:

- 23 dewatering wells
- 37 hydraugers
- 28 inclinometers
- Water quality sampling ports

Funding from the special assessments has been used since 1998 to operate and maintain these facilities.

On March 9, 2020, the City issued a Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) for maintenance and monitoring of the City's three Landslide Assessment Districts, including Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District. On April 16, 2020, the City received four (4) proposals and on May 22, 2020, the following firms were interviewed:

- Cotton, Shires and Associates, Inc.
- Engeo, Inc.
- Fugro
- Yeh and Associates, Inc.

A selection panel, including two property owners in the Big Rock Neighborhood, reviewed the proposals and evaluated each consultant. The selection panel identified Yeh and Associates, Inc., as the most qualified for this project. At the June 22, 2022 City Council meeting, Council approved an agreement with Yeh and Associates, Inc., to provide maintenance and monitoring services for the three Landslide Maintenance ADs.

Since July 1, 2020, Yeh and Associates has been conducting an inventory and evaluation of all the existing dewatering facilities. Eight wells were maintained and repaired. Currently, all 23 dewatering wells are functioning. All 37 hydraugers were inspected and the inspection determined that 27 were currently flowing and the remaining 10 show periodic flow. Yeh and Associates reviewed all the data collected since July 1, 2020 and has determined that the current dewatering system is functioning properly to maintain the lower groundwater levels.

Staff and Yeh and Associates will provide Council with an update on the Big Rock Mesa Landslide Assessment District and will provide options to improve and enhance the assessment district. At the conclusion of the presentation, staff will be seeking Council direction on the various options.

ATTACHMENTS: None