

City of Hesperia

STAFF REPORT



DATE: April 6, 2021

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
Chair and Board Members, Hesperia Water District

FROM: Nils Bentsen, City Manager

BY: Rachel Molina, Deputy City Manager
Casey Brooksher, Director of Finance

SUBJECT: Amendment to Contract with Claris Strategy, Inc. for Emergency Operations Plan Update Services

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the City Council and Board of Directors of the Hesperia Water District (HWD) authorize the City Manager to amend the agreement with Claris Strategy, Inc by \$35,985, to include professional consulting services related to an Emergency Operations Plan Update. Upon approval, the amended contract total with Claris Strategy, Inc. will not exceed \$243,630.

BACKGROUND

The City is responsible for emergency response within its geographical boundaries. The California Emergency Services Act requires the City to manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities within its jurisdiction in order to provide for and maintain "local control" as defined in the Stafford Act. During disasters, the City may be required to coordinate emergency operations with the San Bernardino County Operational Area and in some instances, other local governments. Under the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the City has responsibilities at two levels, the field response and local government levels. At the field response level, all agencies will use the Incident Command System (ICS) to standardize the emergency response.

At the local government level, a designated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is used as the central location for gathering and disseminating information, coordinating all jurisdictional emergency operations, and coordinating with the San Bernardino Operational Area.

ISSUES/ANALYSIS

Currently, the City contracts with Claris Strategy Inc. to provide consulting services related to the America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) Update, the total contract for these services are \$207,645. The AWIA was signed into law in October 2018 and requires community (drinking) water systems to develop or update ERPs. Claris Strategy Inc. has agreed to update the City's Emergency Operations Plan concurrently with the AWIA update, which cuts down expenses.

The City of Hesperia's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was last revised in September of 2008 and is in need of updating to include the new national/state/local guidelines and to ensure that

the regulatory and legal requirements of the City are met. This update will assist staff to better understand, take action, and how to respond to emergencies and identified natural and man-made hazards and risks the City currently faces. Because Claris Strategy, Inc. has agreed to update the City's Emergency Operations Plan concurrently with the AWIA update, staff is requesting an exemption from the bidding process to contract with Claris Strategy, Inc. for the Emergency Operations Plan Update services.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding was approved during the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Mid-Year Budget Review.

ALTERNATIVE(S)

1. Provide alternative direction to staff

ATTACHMENT(S)

None.