

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2

**SUBJECT: ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR
COUNTYWIDE CULVERT REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT AND RELATED
CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) Department of Public Works (DPW) maintains over 18,000 drainage culverts in the unincorporated region. Drainage culverts convey water away from roadways, enhancing safety for roadway users and protecting the County’s transportation and drainage system from deterioration and costly future repairs. DPW regularly assesses the condition of County-maintained culverts during field reviews and has identified locations for repair and replacement. These locations have been prioritized based on the condition of the culvert, community needs, project readiness, and resource availability.

This construction contract is anticipated to repair or replace 62 existing stormwater drainage culverts of varying sizes and lengths at locations throughout the unincorporated County. The list of culverts identified for repair or replacement is in Attachment A, by County district, approximate location, and communities benefiting from the repairs. These improvements will restore the structural integrity and functionality of the drainage systems as well as reduce the risk of flooding and roadway failures on County-maintained roads.

Today’s action requests that the County Board of Supervisors approve the advertisement and award of a construction contract for Countywide culvert repair and replacement. As indicated in Attachment A, the bid package has been structured with a minimum number of locations included in the Base Bid, and two additional culverts listed as an Additive Alternate if the bid price is favorable and allows for these additional repairs. Construction costs are estimated to be \$8,650,000, including a 15 percent contingency for unexpected conditions during construction. Total project costs are estimated at \$9,995,000. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2026 and be completed in 2028.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find in accordance with Section 15301(c) and 15302 (c) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA review because it involves the maintenance, replacement, and/or reconstruction of existing culverts involving no or negligible expansion of existing use.
2. Authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to advertise and award a construction contract and to take other actions authorized by Section 401 et seq. of the Administrative Code with respect to contracting for Countywide culvert repair and replacement.
3. Designate the Director, Department of Public Works, as the County Officer responsible for administering the construction contract in accordance with Board Policy F-41, Public Works Construction Contracts.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Department of Public Works strives to preserve, enhance, and promote quality of life and environmental resources through the implementation of projects that improve stormwater conveyance. Maintaining these systems provides equitable benefits for communities by reducing flood risks, maintaining property values, ensuring public safety, and protecting environmental quality. Properly functioning culverts effectively channel floodwater, protecting property and infrastructure throughout the unincorporated area. By ensuring the stormwater conveyance systems function efficiently, communities can mitigate flood risks and enhance public safety.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Maintaining existing stormwater conveyance systems has economic, environmental, public health, and sustainability benefits. Maintaining these stormwater conveyance systems in a timely manner helps prevent more costly future maintenance efforts, thereby reducing environmental impacts and supporting economic sustainability. The culvert repair and replacement proposed in this action will enhance water quality by effectively channeling floodwater to minimize disruption of the environment. The improvements will also help prevent erosion and flooding, which contribute to the County of San Diego's sustainability goal of protecting ecosystems and habitats.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Department of Public Works, Road Fund. If approved, construction costs are estimated to be \$8,650,000, which includes a 15% contingency for unforeseen conditions that may arise during construction. Total project costs are estimated to be \$9,995,000. The funding source is available prior year Road Fund fund balance. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

County construction contracts are competitively and publicly bid and help stimulate the local economy by creating primarily construction-related employment opportunities. All workers employed on public works projects must be paid prevailing wages determined by the California Department of Industrial Relations, according to the type of work and location of the project. The prevailing wage rates are typically based on rates specified in collective bargaining agreements. A skilled and trained workforce requirement will be included in the contract in compliance with the County's Working Families Ordinance requirements for County construction projects.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

State of California)
County of San Diego)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter