



October 17, 2024

Stephanie Moreno, North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District
Executive Director
Via email: smoreno@gcrd.org

Subject CEQA Support Services for CAL FIRE Grant-funded Project – Amendment 1

Dear Ms. Moreno,

With this letter, Ascent is requesting an increase in budget for out-of-scope services needed to provide CEQA support services for the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District's (RCD's) Hazardous Fuel Reduction Program (CAL FIRE Grant Agreement No. 5GA21155). The original scope assumed that the project area would be up to 20,000 acres with 500 acres of priority treatment, and the project is now calculated to be 28,069.6 acres with 6,258.9 acres of priority treatment area. Additional budget is being requested to extend the analysis into these additional acres. ARC also requests additional funding to account for additional mapping to identify shaded versus non-shaded fuel break acres for the PSA analysis, and to consider three different buffer sizes to calculate the acres of area affected by ball and chain treatment activity. Finally, Ascent is requesting additional budget to support increased project management support and team communication. Since project kickoff, it has become evident that, in the interest of project success, more coordination than was assumed in the original budget is necessary to keep all parties continuously apprised of project status and issues. This will be delivered through one-hour biweekly meetings between October 7th and March 15th as well as direct email and phone communication with the RCD and CAL FIRE when needed (within the identified budget parameters). In total, Ascent and ARC request a combined budget increase of \$11,900 to accommodate these changes. Please see the attached cost breakdown for more information.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the North Santa Clara RCD with this important project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H Blair", is positioned above the typed name.

Heather Blair, Principal
e: Heather.Blair@ascent.inc
p: 916.732.3337

Enclosures

cc: 20230171.01



Ascent, Inc.

| North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District | | Hourly Rate: | | Blair PIC \$280 | Mannell PM \$190 |
|--|---------|--------------|----|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Project Management & Meetings | Price | Hours | | | |
| Project Management | \$5,200 | 25 | 5 | | 20 |
| Meetings | \$4,140 | 18 | 8 | | 10 |
| Subtotal | \$9,340 | 43 | 13 | | 30 |



Auten Resources Consulting (ARC)

| North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District - CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant - PSA Preparation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Task | Description | Lead RPF Rate | Registered Professional Forester Rate | Associate Forester Rate | Asst. Forester III Rate | Assistant Forester II Rate | Assistant Forester I Rate | Lead RPF Hours | Registered Professional Forester Hours | Associate Forester Hours | Asst. Forester III Hours | Assistant Forester II Hours | Assistant Forester I Hours | Totals |
| 1 | Mapping for CalVTP PSA - October 2024 | \$160 | \$130 | \$120 | \$110 | \$105 | \$100 | 4 | | 16 | | | | \$2,560 |
| These changes address additional mapping to identify shaded vs. non-shaded fuel break acres for the PSA analysis. In addition, consider three different buffer sizes (50, 75, and 100 foot) to calculate potential acres of total non-shaded fuel break size that will also be considered for total allowable acres for use of ball and chain treatment activity. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$2,560 |

* The estimate will not be exceeded without prior approval from the client. NOTE: Such costs are based on an estimate of the current anticipated needs of the projects described herein. Any additional work conducted outside the scope of this project as may be agreed to by the parties is subject to additional fees and costs.

* This proposal does NOT include geologic, archaeological, or biological consultants, or any other outside consultants for other resource concerns that may be required as part of permitting processes.

* This proposal does not provide for any contract compliance supervision