



CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

2175 Cherry Avenue • Signal
Hill, California 90755-3799

STAFF REPORT

3/25/2025

AGENDA ITEM

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: CARLO TOMAINO
CITY MANAGER**

**BY: COLLEEN T. DOAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - HUMAN HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW SERVICES**

Summary:

The State of California Office of Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is a State agency whose mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances. One of the services offered by OEHHA is the review of Human Health Risk Assessments (HHRA) which are reports prepared under the environmental review process for all development projects. The HHRA uses environmental data collected from the site to estimate the nature, magnitude, and probability of adverse health effects on people who may be exposed to contaminants. The HHRA is used to make decisions regarding the development of a property and if the proposed development is safe for construction workers and the people who will occupy the site. OEHHA offers HHRA services to local governments via professional services agreements. The City's current Service Agreement with OEHHA expires on April 11, 2025, and the City would like to continue the services and therefore must approve a new Agreement. The proposed Agreement term would be for twenty-four months with the allowance to extend the term for an additional twenty-four months. The total compensation for the services shall not exceed \$20,000.

Strategic Plan Goal(s):

Goal No. 5 High-Functioning Government: Strengthen internal communication, recruitment, retention, systems, and processes to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of City services.

Recommendation:

Authorize the City Manager to enter into an Agreement for on-call Professional Services for Human Health/Environmental Risk Assessment Review with OEHHA for a term of twenty-four months with a not-to-exceed total compensation amount of \$20,000.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff recommends a professional services agreement with a not-to-exceed limit of \$20,000. Actual costs will be determined by the volume of human health and environmental risk assessment reviews requested by the City on behalf of developers. The City will apply a 20% administrative fee to partially recover processing expenditures for non-city projects, potentially generating up to \$4,000.

Background and Analysis:

OEHHA is a State agency whose mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances. One of the services offered by OEHHA is the review of Human Health Risk Assessments (HHRA). Recognizing that local government agencies typically do not possess the technical capacity to conduct these reviews in-house, OEHHA offers these services to local governments via professional services agreements.

The HHRA is a process to determine if contaminants detected at a proposed development site are of concern to human health and the environment. The HHRA uses environmental data collected from the site to estimate the nature, magnitude, and probability of adverse health effects on people who may be exposed to contaminants. The HHRA is used to make decisions about the development of a property and if the proposed development is safe for construction workers and the people who will occupy the site.

As part of the City's environmental review process for new development projects, the City determines whether or not a HHRA is required, using the information contained in a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and a Phase II ESA. ESAs are prepared by professional consulting firms on behalf of developers and reviewed by the City's environmental risk consultants. If required, the City's environmental risk consultant approves the proposed work plan, reviews the HHRA, and then forwards the final document to staff for submittal to OEHHA.

The City's current contract with OEHHA expires on April 11, 2025. Subject to City Council approval, the proposed agreement would allow for a 24-month contract and a total compensation amount not-to-exceed \$20,000 (Attachment A).

Reviewed for Fiscal Impact:

Siamlu Cox

Attachment:

A. Professional Services Agreement with OEHHA