



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, PO BOX 599002, NEVADA CITY,
CA 95959-7902 (530) 265-1222 <http://mynevadacounty.com>**

Trisha Tillotson
Community Development Agency Director

Brian Foss
Planning Director

**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memorandum**

MEETING DATE: June 28, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Brian Foss, Planning Director**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Nevada and Raney Planning and Management Inc., for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR19-001) and contract planning services for the proposed Idaho-Maryland Mine – Rise Grass Valley Project (Resolution No. 20-156) extending the contract termination date to June 30, 2024 and increasing the contract by \$353,156 to an amount not to exceed \$734,350 and directing the Auditor-Controller to amend the Planning Department Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget (4/5 affirmative vote required).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff has recommend that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

FUNDING: The EIR expenses are paid by the project applicant and no General Fund impact is expected.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution with Exhibit A: Personal Services Contract Amendment No. 1.
 2. Resolution No. 20-156 – Approving original contract with Raney Planning & Management for the preparation of an EIR and contract planning services for the proposed Idaho-Maryland Mine – Rise Grass Valley Project
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BACKGROUND:

The Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting on April 28, 2020 approved a Personal Services Contract in the amount of \$381,194 with Raney Planning & Management to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and for contract planning services for the Idaho-Maryland Mine – Rise Grass Valley Project (PLN19-0176, CUP19-0014, RZN19-0002, MGT19-0039, MGT19-0040, MGT20-0009, MGT20-0010, MGT20-0011, MGT20-0012, MGT20-0013, LLA20-0006, VAR19-0003, AAM21-0002, EIR19-0001).

The Draft EIR was completed and a Notice of Availability was released for a 60-day public review period, beginning on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 with a closing date of Friday, March 4, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Subsequently, in response to public comments and consideration of unusual circumstances, such as power outages due to winter storms, the public comment period was voluntarily extended for the Draft EIR to April 4, 2022 for a total of 91 days. On February 7, 2022, a revised Notice of Availability was released to the public, which announced the extension of the public comment period. During the public comment period, a Special Planning Commission meeting on March 24, 2022 was held to accept public and agency comments on the adequacy of the circulated Draft EIR, prepared for the proposed project.

The number of comments received during the 91-day public comment period for the proposed project was substantial and far surpassed the number of public comments anticipated by Raney Planning & Management as part of their original scope of work. Based on Raney's review of the public comments received to date, hundreds of technical comments were also received during the public review period of the Draft EIR. This review has necessitated the involvement of the technical team of experts who were involved with preparing and peer reviewing the project-specific technical reports prepared for the proposed project. As part of the review of these technical comments, technical responses will need to be prepared by the authors of the original technical reports which will then be independently peer reviewed by Raney Planning & Management and their team of technical consultants.

Remaining tasks include:

- Prepare and catalog all responses to public comments and revisions to the Draft EIR.
- Prepare and submit Administrative Final EIR to the Planning Department for review and comments.
- Prepare and submit CEQA Findings of Face, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Final Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
- Release of Final EIR for public comments prior to public hearings.
- Prepare and submit Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors staff reports for review to the Planning Department

- Hold public hearings for consideration of certifying the FEIR and recommendation of the project before the Planning Commission with a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
- Hold a public hearings for consideration of certifying the FEIR and recommendation of the project before the Board of Supervisors.
- Submit the assimilated public record for the project.

The purpose for Contract Amendment No. 1 is to review the contract by extending the contract termination date to June 30, 2024 (the original contract expiration date was May 1, 2022) and increasing the budget by \$353,156 for a total contact amount of \$734,350. The amendment to the scope of work includes production/printing costs for the FEIR, additional administrative costs due to the extended time it will take to complete the documents and additional costs for the independent peer review of hundreds of technical comments, which were received on the Draft EIR.

The applicant is in agreement with this contract amendment and will provide the funds, which are anticipated to be made in two payments.

Please contact me should you require additional information or background.

Item Initiated by: Matt Kelley, Senior Planner

Approved by: Brian Foss, Planning Director