



CIFAC Progress and Accomplishments

MAY 1 through MAY 31, 2014

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

INVESTIGATIONS

Caltrans District 4 MT140501 (\$125,000 Major Maintenance) Santa Clara County

Tucker was contacted regarding road work on Marie Court and Center Avenue performed by Caltrans crews. This area does not appear to be a state highway. Tucker contacted Caltrans and they were unable to identify the project. Tucker researched online and found no references. Tucker contacted the County of Santa Clara to inquire about any project information that they may have and is waiting for a response.

Approximate Value: \$100,000 Status: Ongoing

City of Los Altos MT140502 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Santa Clara County

Tucker received a Notice to Bidders for several city projects. After review of the plan holders lists, Tucker found that the City failed to properly advertise these projects per the requirements of the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act (the Act). Tucker notified the City about the correct advertising. In addition, Tucker found that the City was not listed as a participant of the Act on the State Controller’s website. She contacted the City about this oversight and sent the resolution adopting the Act to the appropriate department.

Approximate Value: Unknown Status: Resolved/Influenced

City of Merced MT140503 (Charter-\$58,575) Merced County

Tucker was contacted regarding the bid procedures used on the Water Treatment Facility Laboratory Building project. Scope of work included the construction of a single-story building, grading, paving, underground utilities and finishing work. The City advertised per the requirements in the charter. Tucker reviewed the plans and spec’s and did not see any areas of concern. Tucker concluded that no further action was necessary.

Approximate Value: \$3.4 million Status: Resolved

City of Lemoore MT140504 (Charter-\$50,000) Kings County

Tucker was contacted regarding the Bush Street Reconstruction project. This project was approved for bidding at the May 6, 2014 City Council meeting however has not yet been bid. Tucker contacted the City for a listing of all publications where projects are advertised and is waiting for a response.

Approximate Value: \$1.3 million Status: Ongoing

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Fresno County Fair Association MT140401 (\$25,000) Fresno County

Tucker was contacted regarding capital improvements projects being performed by fair staff. Through research Tucker found that most fair projects are self-funded through sales and community contributions. The Fair has also created a non-profit organization that handles the procurement of contractors on construction projects and as a private agency, is not subject to the Public Contract Code requirements. At this time, CIFAC will continue to monitor these projects and look at possible legislation in the future.

Approximate Value: \$Unknown Status: Resolved/Monitor

City of Reedley MT140404 (\$5,000) Fresno County

Tucker was contacted regarding city crews performing concrete sidewalk improvements on Hemlock Avenue North of Manning Avenue. Tucker contacted the City. Concrete sidewalks were replaced due to tree roots and cracking. This replacement is considered regular maintenance and is not required to be bid.

Approximate Value: \$ 150,000 Status: Resolved

City of Lemoore MT140406 (Charter-\$50,000) Kings County

Tucker was contacted regarding the 2014 street resurfacing project. It was Tucker's understanding that the project was competitively bid however all bids were rejected. Tucker requested information from the City to inquire about the reasoning behind the rejection of bids and how the City intends on proceeding with the project. Tucker was told that bids came in well below the available funding amount, so the City opted to reject the bids and increase the scope of work. The project will be rebid at a later date.

Approximate Value: \$530,000 Status: Resolved

CSU Stanislaus MT140301 (\$5,000) Stanislaus County

Tucker was contacted regarding an electrical installation project at the press box located on the baseball field. The caller was concerned that the project was not competitively bid, as the contractor performing the work indicated that this was a private project. Tucker contacted the College and was told that the project was through the CSU Foundation with donor funds. Tucker requested additional information and is waiting for a response.

Approximate Value: \$165,000 Status: Ongoing

NETWORKING/OTHER

Tucker continues to maintain contact with her network, answer Public Contract Code questions and search for new bidding opportunities for the industry within her coverage area.

The Fresno County Zoo Authority Board held a public hearing regarding the proposed extension of Measure Z. This half cent sales tax measure funds the maintenance, operation and expansion of the zoo. In April of 2015, Measure Z will expire. The Fresno Chafee Zoo Corporation presented a draft of the ballot measure

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language at the meeting. This measure will be on the November 2014 ballot. CIFAC wants to ensure that the Zoo continues to follow their procurement requirements should a new measure pass.

The City of Porterville has 14 measures on the June 3 ballot. Porterville is already charter but follows state bidding laws. Two of the measures affect the City's current bidding and contracting procedures. Measure R exempts force account work which will allow city crews to self-perform any/all construction work without having to go out to bid. Measure S will increase the City's bid threshold from \$5,000 to \$50,000. CIFAC has filed two ballot arguments against these measures.

Tucker's coverage area also includes the County of San Luis Obispo and all agencies within the county. Please refer to the Southern Region report for networking and project information.

INVESTIGATIONS

County of Mendocino SR140501 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Mendocino County

Riley was contacted by a contractor regarding a slurry seal project the County put out to bid for a parking lot at the Social Services building. The bid solicitation required an "A" license. The contractor had a "C-12" which allows for paving to be performed. There was also concern that this project had a mandatory pre-bid meeting. Usually mandatory pre-bid meetings are held for projects having special circumstances or access issues. This was a standard project. During busy times for contractors, mandatory pre-bids can limit the bidding pool as the contractors aren't available to attend. Riley contacted the County. They thanked her and appreciated her input. They had recently had some staff changes and didn't realize these issues. They immediately issued an addendum.

Approximate Value: \$150,000

Status: Resolved/INFLUENCED

City of Ukiah SR140502 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Mendocino County

The City of Ukiah contacted Riley about work needing to be done at their community center. The building is owned by a non-profit, but the City leases it and is responsible for all repairs and maintenance. They had a major toilet issue in the building. This resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Those repairs were being covered by insurance. During the investigation into the issue, they found that there was a problem with the main water line that went into the building. The City wanted to get that fixed. They asked Riley if that cost would be part of the total cost of work being done and require the work to be put out to bid. The work was less than \$10,000, but if it was included in the entire cost it would need to be bid. Riley said that since the other work was being paid by the insurance and was not related to the same issue that they were fine to do it by force account or a contractor without using a formal process.

Approximate Value: \$10,000

Status: Resolved

City of Vacaville SR140503 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Solano County

Riley was contacted about a large project for housing and development being done in the City. The City was requiring that work be done on infrastructure. The City had waived zone fees for the area. The fees were

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put in place to allow for increases of streets, roads and safety services. Riley was asked to look into the issue that this work should have been bid. She is still waiting for documents. The reporting party feels that the work done is beyond the usual conditions of development.

Approximate Value: \$Unknown Status: Ongoing

U.S. Department of Forestry SR140504 Trinity County

A drainage project advertised as located near the rural town of Hayfork had a value of \$5 million. Riley was asked to find out about the project, as the information in the advertisement was very vague. After research she found out that it was a Federal Forest service Project. Its value was estimated at \$1-5 million. The project was listed on Fed-Biz and was a small business set aside if there were available bidders. Riley contacted members of her network to give them the information she had. There was no further investigation needed on this project.

Approximate Value: \$1-5 Million Status: Resolved

County of Trinity SR140505 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Trinity County

The County of Trinity put out Phase 1 of their Lance Gulch road improvements. All of the bids were over their estimate. Riley has contacted the County to see if they are planning to award. She is communicating with the County on this matter, as the project is larger than they usually have. They need to be sure not to negotiate before award with any of the bidders.

Approximate Value: \$6.2 million Status: Ongoing

County of Contra Costa SR140506 (CUCCAA-\$45,000) Contra Costa County

Riley was contacted by a member of her network regarding a possible problem with the County on the award of a slurry seal project. It was understood that the County had gone out to bid and subsequently awarded the project. The contractor was then told that they had to put the project on hold as the Public Employees were getting an injunction against the City for giving out their work to a contractor. Riley is working on this investigation and will have additional information soon.

Approximate Value: \$300,000 Status: Ongoing

NETWORKING/ OTHER

Riley attended the Humboldt/Del Norte Building Trades meeting in Eureka. She reported on the various activities she was involved with. They were glad to have her there. She will be helping at their meet and greet in August. This will be an opportunity to interact with those running for office in the area. The trades are interested in learning more about standards on public projects.

Riley attended the Operating Engineers Local 3 District meetings in Eureka and Redding. She was available to answer questions that the members had about bidding and to network with Local 3 officers that were conducting the meetings.

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Riley assisted in contacting public officials for the Shasta District AGC public official's night. She attended the evening reception and awards presentation. The event had a nice attendance and an interesting presentation was given by AGC Student Chapter members from Chico State.

Riley finished up-dating the CIFAC review of law changes pertaining to the Public Contract Code.

Riley began reviewing applications for the Field Representative Position CIFAC is currently advertising. Interested persons, who would like to apply for the Bay Area position should send their resume and a cover letter to the CIFAC main office.

Riley interacted with members of her network and with public works staff having questions about bidding. Many agencies are now contacting CIFAC prior to issues arising and problems having to be fixed.

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