

**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

September 25, 2019

TO: Ann Moller Caen  
President, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

FROM: Harlan L. Kelly, Jr., General Manager 

SUBJECT: Declaration of Emergency Update: Repair Southeast Treatment Plant Final Effluent Force Main

On October 18, 2018, the SFPUC Wastewater Enterprise discovered a potential failure of the pipe that conveys the treated final effluent from the Southeast Treatment Plant to the deep-water outfall located near Pier 80. In an October 22, 2018 memorandum to the then-President of the Commission, I declared an emergency due to the failure of, and need to repair, the Southeast Treatment Plant Final Effluent Force Main, with an estimated repair cost of not to exceed \$2 million. The Commission President provided his written concurrence and approval.

On December 26, 2018, I issued an updated declaration of an emergency to reflect two changes based on initial detailed engineering field evaluation and updated construction estimates for the work: (1) authorization of the declaration under both Administrative Code Section 6.60 and Section 21.15, and (2) an increase in the anticipated not to exceed cost from \$2 million to \$5 million. On February 5, 2019, the Board of Supervisors approved the declaration of an emergency through Resolution No. 59-19, which stated that the estimated cost of the emergency repair work was anticipated not to exceed \$4.912 million.

A bypass pipeline is currently under construction to eliminate one of the existing pair of force mains that crosses under Islais Creek parallel to Third Street. While initial engineering design expected traditional construction methodology, a contractor later confirmed that the only way to construct the bypass pipeline is to build water-tight cofferdams due to poor soil conditions and site constraints. Cofferdam construction requires a specialized crane and barge configuration which necessitated building a temporary seawall. Staff is working closely with consultant and contractor teams to build the bypass pipe in a marine site that is substantially more complex with poor soil conditions, limited waterside access, thick sediment layer, active marine wildlife, dilapidated existing pipe conditions, larger than expected void under the initial pipeline alignment design, and a target construction completion before the upcoming wet weather season.

Based on information learned during active construction, staff now estimates the work will exceed the \$4.912 million not-to-exceed estimate stated in Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 59-19. With actual design and construction costs, the total emergency repair cost is now estimated at \$6.25 million.

I am therefore updating the December 26, 2018 declaration of an emergency for an increase in the anticipated not to exceed cost from \$5 million to \$6.25 million. In light of the increase in estimated costs, we will return to the Board of Supervisors for approval of this updated declaration of an emergency. I trust that this meets with your concurrence and approval.



CONCUR AND APPROVE:

Ann Moller Caen, President  
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

cc: SFPUC Commission, M. Carlin, G. Norby

**London N. Breed**  
Mayor

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**Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.**  
General Manager