



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
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AGENDA ITEM 5b
HCAOG Board Meeting
March 19, 2026

DATE: March 11, 2026
TO: HCAOG Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)
FROM: Oona Smith, Senior Regional Planner
SUBJECT: **Consultant Selection Recommendation for the “Loleta Safe Routes to School and Connectivity to Tribal Lands Project”**

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff’s recommended action
- Staff summary
- Standing Wave Engineering proposal
- Mark Thomas & Company proposal
- GHD proposal

Staff’s recommended action:

Motion to be approved by consent:

“The PAC recommends that the HCAOG Board approve the scoring committee’s recommendation and authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a professional services contract with GHD for the subject project.”

Staff summary:

HCAOG released, on January 21, 2026, a request for proposals (RFP) to retain a qualified professional services consultant team to provide technical, analytical, facilitation, and outreach work for the Loleta Safe Routes to School and Connectivity to Tribal Lands Project. The project is funded with a Caltrans Sustainable Communities grant (Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program). HCAOG staff has primary grant administration responsibilities; Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) is the lead project coordinator and will lead community and tribal engagement. The County of Humboldt Public Works Department will provide project support and oversight primarily for the technical deliverables. The RFP requested a cost of services not to exceed \$230,000.

The consultant will ultimately deliver a final plan that includes existing conditions mapping and analysis; 30% design drawings and cost estimates for the project area near Loleta Elementary

School; multimodal needs assessments for adjacent Table Bluff and Bear River Rancheria lands; and is inherently responsive and inclusive of community input and priorities.

Three firms submitted responsive proposals. A scoring committee rated the proposals according to the published RFP evaluation criteria. The scoring committee consisted of two staff members from HCAOG, one staff member from RCAA, and one staff member from County Public Works. Below are the scores.

Scorer	SWE	Mark Thomas	GHD
1	87	95	93.5
2	73	83.75	86.75
3	89	100	99.65
4	92	86.5	90
Average	85.25	91.31	92.48

Based on the committee's scores and deliberations, they are in consensus to recommend that HCAOG negotiate and execute a professional services contract with GHD for consultant services for the subject project award.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) discussed this item on March 5th and recommends that the Board approve the scoring committee's recommendation. Staff is asking the PAC to consider recommending the scoring committee's and TAC's recommendations to the HCAOG Board.