

# MEMO



**Consent  
Item #: 11**

Meeting Date: September 23, 2022

To: Board of Directors  
From: Senior Engineer, David Ramirez  
Approved by: General Manager, Felipe Melchor

**Subject: Underground the Overhead Utilities at the Scalehouse**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute an emergency contract with Collins Electric of Stockton, CA to underground the overhead utilities servicing the Scalehouse for the time and materials not to exceed amount of \$90,170.

**BACKGROUND**

The original Scalehouse was constructed in the mid-1990s and was designed with overhead canopies extending out to the north and south. These canopies covered all four of the site's truck scales. The canopy to the north of the Scalehouse also served as the structure in which the Scalehouse's utility raceway was located. This utility raceway provided electrical power and data



connectivity from the Administration Building to the Scalehouse. Since its construction, the Scalehouse canopies have been struck several times by overheight vehicles that have neglected to lower parts of their disposal equipment. The list of objects that have struck the canopy have included raised dumpster forks, raised payload beds, and a raised load tarp arm. The latest strikes occurred in 2018, 2020, and most recently on August 16, 2022. These strikes have marked the end of the

canopy, as more and more of the canopy has been deconstructed and removed with each strike. Before the strike on August 16, 2022 there was a single beam carrying the conduits over the

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*Let's not waste this.*



scales. The latest strike demolished that beam and left the utility raceway unprotected and unsupported. After some emergency repairs at the time of the incident, the utility raceway was freed from the vehicle and a temporary support system installed in the center scale bypass lane



located between Scale “A” and Scale “B” for the overhead utilities. The overhead utilities are currently supported by a temporary wood bracing support scaffolding. The scalehouse facility is currently at risk of significant operations interruption given the elevated utilities and the temporary support system. If another strike occurs it will shut down the Scalehouse operations and cause significant customer delays and accounting issues. A manual scale ticket process would be necessary during the outage and possibly a temporary restriction of access to the facility of non-franchise customers.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Scalehouse’s underground utility raceway is part of the upcoming Scalehouse renovation which is planned for Spring 2023. Engineering drawings of the full Scalehouse design are currently in Monterey County plan check

review and contain the underground utility raceway design. However, the latest overheight strike caused the removal of the utilities support beam and put the scale operations at risk of a serious service interruption. As a result, the General Manager authorized an emergency project to support the current overhead utilities temporarily and to proceed to place the overhead utility raceway into an underground trench as soon as possible.

Under this Emergency Authorization, staff contracted with Collins Electrical service to mobilize and install the underground trench that was designed as part of the overall Scalehouse renovation project plans. This work is currently underway and should be substantially completed by the time of the Board Meeting. This emergency work had to be completed immediately since the Scalehouse operations are an essential part of daily business operations and reporting to the State.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

This work is being performed under a ‘time and materials’ basis, not to exceed price of \$90,170. This scope of work is included in the FY 2022/23 budget as part of the overall Scalehouse renovation project’s budget. Separately, an insurance claim reimbursement is anticipated from the at-fault party’s insurance company.



## **CONCLUSION**

The Scalehouse is an essential part of ReGen's site infrastructure and the recent overheight vehicle strikes have left the utility raceway that carries power and data to the Scalehouse vulnerable to further damage and service interruptions. If another strike occurs or the temporary support structure is disturbed for any reason, the scale operations will stop and significantly impact the processing of customers. Staff therefore recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute an emergency contract with Collins Electric of Stockton, CA to underground the overhead electrical utilities servicing the Scalehouse for the time and materials not to exceed amount of \$90,170.