# RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

# Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

Request for Qualifications for Legal Counsel Services Cost Proposal

January 11, 2023

# **Craig Steele**

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# **Compensation and Reimbursements**

Our proposed composite fee schedule below reflects a significant discount from our standard rates for attorneys, which typically vary based on the seniority and expertise of the attorney.

## 1) General Services

All legal services that are not defined below as Special Services or Litigation will be deemed to be General Services. Without limitation, all of the following are General Services (to the extent they are not otherwise Special Services or Litigation):

- 1. Remote attendance at Board of Directors meetings, as requested by the General Manager or designated GDPUD Officer.
- 2. Legal research and legal advice to the GDPUD and designated GDPUD Staff.
- 3. Preparation and review of resolutions, ordinances, agreements, and other legal documents.
- 4. Public works issues (non-litigation).
- 5. Telecommunications advisory services.
- 6. Water and Water Rights advisory services.
- 7. Environmental law advisory services.
- 8. Labor and Employment law services.
- 9. Public Records Requests.

- 10. Real Estate law and Land Use matters.
- 11. Oversight of legal matters handled by outside legal counsel.

General Services shall be billed at a composite rate for all attorneys of \$300 per hour, and at a composite rate for all paralegals of \$175 per hour, all billed in 1/10 hour increments.

### 2) Public Finance Services

Public Finance Services for Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, or Issuer Counsel services would be billed at a composite rate for all attorneys of \$425 per hour, except that the total fee shall not exceed an amount which the Executive Director deems fair and reasonable.

## 3) Litigation

Litigation will be defined as representation of the GDPUD in all aspects of the initiation, advancement, or defense of claims in litigation, arbitration, mediation, or representation of the GDPUD in administrative proceedings before other public agencies. Litigation shall be billed at a 10% discount from our then-current standard hourly rate for each attorney working on the matter, not to exceed \$450.



# 4) Third Party Reimbursed Services

The term "Third-Party Services" includes any legal services provided in a matter where the GDPUD elects to have its legal costs paid by a third-party. Third-Party Services shall be charged at RWG's then-current posted hourly rates.

# 5) Reimbursable and/or Other Costs

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All costs associated with our services, such as legal research services, copying, or messenger or delivery services, will be charged at the Firm's actual out-of-pocket expenses. The Firm will not charge for word processing and similar clerical tasks. To minimize travel-related costs, we are equipped with video conferencing capabilities which allows us to participate in meetings and court hearings remotely. RWG believes that most non-litigation legal work for the District can be done remotely. Travel time and mileage reimbursement for on-site work at the District's offices, courts, or other facilities will be billed from our Sacramento office. Any other travel costs will be billed at actual cost.

Our proposed rates will not be raised for two years from the date of the initial contract. We typically include automatic CPI increases in our contracts after the initial rate period, with CPI increases not to exceed 5%. Beyond that, any rate increases are always discussed with clients in advance.



# RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

#### CENTRAL COAST OFFICE

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