



Department: Public Works
Cost Center: 6004
For Agenda of: 9/17/2024
Placement: Consent
Estimated Time: N/A

FROM: Matt Horn, Public Works Director
Prepared By: Hai Nguyen, Senior Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD AND TAFT STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT, SPECIFICATION NO. 2000545

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve the project plans and specifications for California Boulevard and Taft Street Water Main Replacement, Specification Number 2000545; and
2. Authorize staff to advertise for bids; and
3. Authorize the City Manager to award the Construction Contract pursuant to Section 3.24.190 of the Municipal Code if the lowest responsible bid is within the Engineer's Estimate of \$1,200,000; and
4. Authorize the City Engineer to approve Contract Change Orders up to the available project budget and any amended budget subsequently approved by the City Manager up to \$200,000.

POLICY CONTEXT

On January 19, 2016, the City Council approved the Potable Water Distribution System Operations Plan, which identified this project as a high priority for the City.

On May 17, 2022, Council approved a Purchasing Policy Update to the Financial Management Manual that requires Council approval for Public Projects that cost over \$200,000.

DISCUSSION

Background

The City's water distribution system is comprised of 184 miles of pipe with diameters ranging in size from four inches to 30 inches. Some of these pipes have been identified as undersized or have surpassed their intended design life, which is typically around 50 years. As waterlines age, the frequency of breaks increases, leading to costly and disruptive repairs. These breaks can damage roadways, often requiring full-depth reconstruction and substantial costs to properly restore the pavement.

To address these issues, the City has established an ongoing program focused on replace aging, substandard, and deteriorating infrastructure. The main objectives of this program are to ensure reliable water services, reduce the need for emergency repairs, and to enhance available fire flows. Through this program, the City can significantly lower repair costs and minimize the impact to customers.

The Project

The project plans (Attachment A) and specifications (Attachment B) propose to replace 810 linear feet of waterline along California Boulevard, from Stafford to Taft Street. Waterline replacement work at the California Boulevard and Taft Street intersection was originally designed to be included with the construction of the California/Taft Roundabout project. However, construction for the roundabout has been delayed due to right of way acquisition; therefore, replacement of the waterline is now proposed to be completed first as part of this project.

The critical 16-inch water transmission main, originally installed in the 1960's, will be replaced with 24-inch ductile iron pipe. This upgrade will eliminate capacity constraints and improve water flow. Replacing these waterlines will result in lower costs to the City and reduced customer impacts associated with emergency repairs. By minimizing or eliminating emergency repairs, maintenance staff will have more time to focus on preventive maintenance, which in turn extends service life of other water distribution assets.

Previous Council or Advisory Body Action

This Project was identified in the 2021-23 Financial Plan that was approved by Council.

Public Engagement

Public engagement was conducted during the initial identification of this Project to be included in the 2021-23 Financial Plan. In addition, notifications will be sent out to affected businesses and residents prior to the start of construction and during construction when waterline connections are made.

CONCURRENCE

This project has the concurrence of the Utilities Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15302 Class 2(c) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Replacement of Reconstruction) because the replacement of the water transmission mains would result in no expansion of use. Section 15302 Class 2(c) specifies that "Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use" is categorically exempt from environmental review. A Notice of Exemption will be filed through the Community Development Department.

FISCAL IMPACT

Budgeted: Yes
Funding Identified: Yes

Budget Year: 2021-23

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Total Budget Available	Current Funding Request	Remaining Balance	Annual Ongoing Cost
General Fund				
State				
Federal				
Fees				
Water Fund:	\$1,630,450	\$1,550,000	\$80,450	N/A
Total	\$1,630,450	\$1,550,000	\$80,450	N/A

California Boulevard and Taft Street Water Main Replacement (2000545)	
Construction Estimate	\$1,200,000
Contingencies	\$340,000
Material Testing	\$9,500
Printing	\$500
Total Cost of Project	\$1,550,000
Total Available Funding	\$1,630,450
Remaining Balance	\$80,450

Waterline improvements identified in this project are described in the 2021-23 Financial Plan. Funding for this project is available in the Project Account (2000545) which has a current balance of \$1,630,450 and will provide sufficient funding to support the project costs.

All utility improvement projects are classified as high-risk due to many unknown subsurface conditions. Experience from previous waterline replacement projects indicate that higher contingencies are required to cover the additional cost of modifying unknown utility conflicts and unknowns encountered during roadway excavation.

ALTERNATIVES

Deny or defer approval to advertise. The City Council may choose to deny or defer the approval to advertise this project. Staff does not recommend this option, as the water mains included in this project continue to deteriorate and pose a high risk of catastrophic failure, requiring expensive repairs.

ATTACHMENTS

A - Project Plans (Spec. 2000545)

B - Project Specifications (Spec. 2000545)