



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Bill Robeson, Assistant City Engineer/Public Works Director

**BY:** Jill McPeck, Capital Improvement Project Manager

**SUBJECT:** Consider Approval of Construction Plans & Specifications for the Oak Park Drainage Repairs Project, PW 2020-04

**DATE:** June 28, 2022

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### **SUMMARY OF ACTION:**

Approve construction plans and specifications, affirm the California Environmental Quality Act exemption determination, and authorize the solicitation of bids for the Oak Park Drainage Repairs Project.

### **IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:**

An allocation of \$400,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds are available in the amended FY 2021-22 Capital Improvement Program budget for the design, inspection, construction, and contingencies of the subject project. The engineer's estimate for construction is \$254,000. Staff time will be necessary to coordinate bidding activities with interested contractors, and engineering and construction management consultants.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

1) Approve the construction plans and specifications for the Oak Park Drainage Repairs Project, PW 2020-04; 2) Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(b); 3) Direct the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption; and 4) Authorize staff to advertise for construction bids.

### **BACKGROUND:**

During a rain event at the end of December 2019, Public Works crews responded to flooding on El Camino Real east of Oak Park Boulevard. Investigations revealed the flooding was caused by storm drain system failures in the area of the Oak Park Boulevard/El Camino Real intersection. These failures caused substantial soil and debris deposits in the storm drain pipes and downstream box culvert, and created a large void surrounding a maintenance hole on Oak Park Boulevard near El Camino Real. A semi-

**Item 8.e.**

## **City Council**

### **Consider Approval of Construction Plans & Specifications for the Oak Park Drainage Repairs Project, PW 2020-04**

**June 28, 2022**

**Page 2**

permanent lane closure on Oak Park Boulevard was established to direct traffic away from the area of the void, and on January 21, 2020, the Council adopted a resolution to allow for immediate emergency repairs to the storm drain system in the Oak Park Boulevard/El Camino Real area (Attachment 2).

Throughout January 2020, staff and its contractors were able to remove debris from the downstream box culvert, but due to the depth and inaccessibility of the storm drain pipe under Oak Park Boulevard and the maintenance hole near the El Camino Real intersection, attempts to unplug these facilities were unsuccessful. Staff met with a design consultant to develop a temporary and permanent solution for repairs.

In February 2020, temporary repairs were installed which consisted of filling the maintenance hole with slurry and filling/compacting the surrounding void with soil. A bubble up was installed on Oak Park Boulevard near the newly plugged maintenance hole to temporarily convey storm water along the curb and gutter line to El Camino Real. The Oak Park Boulevard/El Camino Real area was returned to preconstruction conditions, the lane closure was removed, and the Council adopted a resolution to terminate the emergency declaration.

Also, in February 2020, and in parallel with the temporary repairs, staff and its design consultant prepared a drainage analysis and a conceptual plan presenting a permanent solution for drainage in the area that would share storm drain facilities with Caltrans. Staff forwarded these documents to Caltrans staff for consideration and requested a date/time to discuss the plans.

In order to bid the project and provide immunity to the City, the City Council approves the plans and specifications prior to the construction bidding process. In addition, the scope of work is proposed to be evaluated pursuant to CEQA prior to bidding.

#### **ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:**

Since February 2020, staff has worked diligently on several design iterations and accompanying drainage analyses to develop a solution that would be acceptable to Caltrans. The final solution was accepted by Caltrans in April 2022 which consists of:

- Rerouting the storm water that previously flowed through the now plugged maintenance hole, under Oak Park Boulevard, under the development/parking lot on the southwest corner of the Oak Park Boulevard/El Camino Road intersection to the downstream box culvert.
- Providing a new route for the storm water from the newly installed bubble up structure on Oak Park Boulevard, along the curb and gutter line to a new catch basin on El Camino Real, then through underground storm drain pipes under El Camino Real and

**Item 8.e.**

**City Council**

**Consider Approval of Construction Plans & Specifications for the Oak Park Drainage Repairs Project, PW 2020-04**

**June 28, 2022**

**Page 3**

along the southbound Highway 101 shoulder ultimately connecting to the same downstream box culvert.

The proposed contract time is 60 working days. Should successful bids be received and a construction contract awarded, work is expected to be performed from September through November 2022. Project plans and specifications are available for review at the Public Works Department.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The following alternatives are provided for the Council's consideration:

1. Approve recommendations as proposed;
2. Do not approve recommendations and request further information;
3. Modify recommendations and approve; or
4. Provide other direction to staff.

**ADVANTAGES:**

The drainage improvements will provide a permanent solution for conveying storm water runoff within the area and to help reduce the potential for flooding of the adjacent roadways.

**DISADVANTAGES:**

There will be traffic inconveniences to the travelling public during construction. These will be minimized as much as possible. Staff and its consultants will monitor the traffic control to conform to the requirements of the Municipal Uniform Traffic Control Devices manual (MUTCD) to mitigate any negative effects.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Guideline Section 15301(b) for minor alteration of existing public facilities used to provide sewerage or other public utility services involving negligible or no expansion.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:**

The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

Attachments:

1. Notice of Exemption
2. [January 21, 2020 Staff Report and Attachments](#)