



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Bill Robeson, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director

BY: Paul Henderson, Interim Capital Improvement Project Manager

SUBJECT: Consideration to Approve Construction Plans & Specifications and Environmental Exemption for the Fair Oaks Water Main Replacement, Elm to Alder, Project

DATE: March 28, 2023

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

Approve construction plans and specifications, authorize the solicitation of bids, and provide an environmental determination for the Fair Oaks Water Main Replacement, Elm to Alder, Project.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

The FY 2022-23 budget includes \$719,474.43 for the Fair Oaks Water Main Replacement, Elm to Alder, Project consisting of the following funds: \$269,750 of Water Facility Funds and \$449,724.43 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Of the overall budget, it is estimated \$631,500 will be needed for construction and \$63,130 for construction contingencies. The remaining \$24,844.43 will be used for, consultant material testing/laboratory, bidding and construction support services, and design services. Any unused funds will be recommended for carry over to FY 2023-24. Staff time will be necessary during construction for project administration and management and inspection.

RECOMMENDATION:

1) Approve the construction plans and specifications for the Fair Oaks Water Main Replacement, Elm to Alder, Project; 2) Authorize the City Clerk to advertise for sealed construction bids; 3) Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Guidelines Section 15301(b); and 4) Direct the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption.

BACKGROUND:

The City's Water System Master Plan, developed by WSC in 2012 and adopted by the City Council in 2013, recommended that several sections of cast iron watermain be

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replaced due to their condition and age, which included the section of 8-inch cast iron pipe within Fair Oaks Avenue between the well field on South Elm Street and Alder Street. This section of water main was installed in 1929, making it over 94 years old, and will be replaced with an equivalent size PVC pipe. Galvanized pipe has a useful life of 50-100 years. In general, the project will consist of replacement of 2,050 feet of water main, new service connections (meters to remain) and new fire hydrant laterals. Provisions will be made at connection points to waterlines at Pecan Street, Beech Street, and Alder Street for future water main upsizing projects.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The City has an ongoing funded Capital Improvement Program that replaces older water mains and services. Although this section of water main is currently functional, it is part of the oldest section of water main pipe in the network, installed in 1929, and has reached the end of its useful life and should be replaced. If this section of water main is not replaced, the City runs the risk of pipe failure, leaks, loss of water service and costly repairs. This section of water main has experienced significant failures in the past.

The proposed construction time is 30 working days. Should successful bids be received, and a construction contract awarded, work is expected to be performed during the summer of 2023. Plans are attached (Attachment 2) and plans and specifications are available for review at the Public Works Department.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

1. 1) Approve the construction plans and specifications for the Fair Oaks Water Main Replacement, Elm to Alder, Project; 2) Authorize the City Clerk to advertise for sealed construction bids; 3) Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Guidelines Section 15301(b); and 4) Direct the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption;
2. Do not approve staff's recommendations and request further information;
3. Modify staff's recommendation and approve; or
4. Provide direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:

Replacement of the water main on Fair Oaks Avenue between the well field on South Elm Street and Alder Street will provide the following advantages:

- a. Mitigate future issues of loss of water service and cost of repairs.
- b. Mitigate future maintenance costs by utilizing new PVC pipe.
- c. Mitigate future disruptions to traffic and parking for maintenance and repairs.

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DISADVANTAGES:

Replacement of the water main on Fair Oaks Avenue between the well field on South Elm Street and Alder Street may have the following disadvantages:

- There will be temporary shutdown of water service to customers during construction. Written notice will be provided, in advance, to all effected. The duration of service interruption will be minimized by the Contractor to less than 1 working day.
- There will be temporary disruption to vehicles and pedestrians, including parking. Construction of the project is scheduled for summer 2023, during the school break, to minimize impact to traveling students/parents. Signage and traffic flagging will be used during construction to minimize the impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the Class 1 exemption, which applies to the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features where the project involves negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Specifically, the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(b) for repairs and maintenance of existing “public utility services.” Further the City finds none of the exceptions to the Class 1 exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The City Council 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. Construction Documents