



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 29, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Increase In Construction Change Order Authority For The Punta Gorda Street Bridge Replacement Project

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize an increase in the Public Works Director's Change Order Authority to approve expenditures for extra work for the Punta Gorda Street Bridge Replacement Project, Contract No. 24,514 in the amount of \$160,000, for a total Project expenditure authority of \$3,432,037.

DISCUSSION:

BACKGROUND

For many years, the City has been planning to widen Sycamore Creek north of the U.S. Highway 101 Bridge to reduce the probability of flooding in the neighborhood.

On September 7, 2012, the City received a notification from the California Department of Housing and Community Development of an approval of the Disaster Recovery Initiative grant funds in the total amount of \$2,662,525, for a project to widen the creek channel and replace the Punta Gorda Street Bridge.

On May 21, 2013, Council awarded a construction contract to Shaw Contracting, Inc. (Shaw), in their low bid amount of \$1,865,964.50, which included \$186,600 to cover any cost increases that may result from contract change orders. Staff notified Shaw on July 1, 2013, to proceed with the construction.

CURRENT STATUS

The Punta Gorda Street Bridge Replacement Project (Project) is delayed due to Southern California Edison (SCE) not being able to complete the relocation of its overhead electric transmission facilities. The delays are related to the placement of the concrete foundation for a tubular steel pole in order to relocate the existing overhead electric

lines on Punta Gorda Street. To date, the Bridge construction schedule has been delayed for more than a month. The Bridge's construction is dependent on relocation of the existing overhead electric utility facilities away from the new Bridge's footprint area. Without the relocation, the Bridge construction cannot begin.

Staff has been working with SCE since the planning and design phase of the overhead electric utility facility relocation. The relocation was originally scheduled to be complete by August 31, 2013. As of October 7, 2013, SCE had not completed the relocation, but was in the process of starting a new method to install the tubular steel pole. SCE has informed staff that they anticipate that the work will be complete in mid-November.

With the delays, staff has been forced to direct Shaw to reschedule work or perform out-of-sequence work around the existing overhead utility facilities, which includes wooden poles and pole anchor wires. Furthermore, the delay will result in the Bridge construction going beyond the City's authorized construction time frame in the creek streambed pursuant to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Water Quality Certification Permit (Permit). The Permit does not authorize the City to conduct any construction activity in the creek streambed between November 1 and May 30. City staff and the RWQCB believe that the best option to prevent any potential increase to water pollution is to cease Bridge construction activities in the creek's streambed until next spring.

Though the Project is incurring delays, there are other major elements of the Project that have been completed. The following improvements are complete:

- Creek channel widening upstream and downstream of the Bridge, and
- Demolition of the old Bridge.

This work reduces the probability of neighborhood flooding; however, the through traffic over the Punta Gorda Bridge is disrupted.

The following improvements are scheduled to be complete by the end of October, concurrent with or after SCE's relocation work (in no particular order):

- Creek channel bottom,
- Permanent erosion control blankets on creek slopes,
- Partial excavations of Bridge abutment walls,
- Rock slope toe protection under the Bridge,
- Concrete encasement of exposed existing sanitary sewer pipe in creek,
- Sanitary sewer siphon piping, and
- Removal of temporary creek diversion system.

Plantings and permanent erosion control measures for the creek slopes have already started, and many of the willow stake plantings have already taken root and sprouted leaves. Additional plantings are proposed to be planted on the creek slopes in November or December 2013.

ANTICIPATED STATUS

Since Southern California Edison was not able to complete their power line relocation, construction activities have been delayed beyond the Regional Water Quality Control Board permit's time frame and staff will order the suspension of work, effective November 1, 2013. Staff has also ordered Shaw to de-mobilize its labor forces and equipment, install temporary erosion and sediment control facilities, as well as temporary flood protection facilities, and remobilize once the environmental conditions and the permit restrictions allow work to proceed again. The Permit authorizes construction activity in the creek streambed after May 30, 2014. Shaw's work may effectively restart after that date.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

FUNDING

To date, extra work that is attributable to the Project and not to SCE's relocation work delay is \$81,340. Staff anticipates the current change order authority will not be sufficient to fund both the extra work and the costs being incurred for Shaw's re-scheduled work or out-of-schedule sequence work, due to SCE's relocation work delay. The requested increase in change order authority should fund Shaw's re-scheduled work or out-of-schedule sequence work until SCE's relocation work is complete.

Additional staff time and overhead, as well as professional services costs, to manage the Project because of these delays will also be incurred. Once SCE has finished the relocation work and a new schedule for work is established, staff will be better able to estimate these costs and any other construction related costs. Staff will return to Council for additional funding for construction management support, inspection, materials testing, bridge engineering support services, and environmental coordination and biological monitoring, once these costs have been established. Staff is currently working to prepare and submit a demand to SCE for recovery of the City's delay costs under provisions of the City's franchise agreement with SCE.

The following summarizes the additional expenditures recommended in this report:

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FUNDING SUMMARY

	Base Contract	Change Order	Total
Initial Contract Amount	\$1,865,965	\$186,600	\$2,052,565
Proposed Construction Change Order Increase	\$0	\$160,000	\$160,000
Total	\$1,865,965	\$346,600	\$2,212,565

This past August, staff submitted the first grant reimbursement request for the Project in the amount of \$223,596. The current grant balance for the Project is \$2,438,929.

There are sufficient funds in the Streets Capital Program to cover both the extra work attributable to the Project and the extra work for Shaw's rescheduled work or out-of-sequence work, due to SCE's relocation work delay.

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SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office