



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 20, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of An Emergency Purchase Order For The Modoc Road Storm Drain Repair Project

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council retroactively approve the issuance of an emergency Purchase Order to Tierra Contracting, Inc. (Tierra), in the amount of \$87,718, for construction of the Modoc Road Storm Drain Repair pursuant to Municipal Code Section 4.52.080.

DISCUSSION:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

On February 8, 2010, Public Works staff was notified of a significant sinkhole on the shoulder of Modoc Road adjacent to Veronica Springs Road. Staff determined there was a 48-inch storm drain pipe buried about 20 feet under Modoc Road, conveying water from the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) property and US Highway 101. Further research determined that the pipe was 50 years old and made of corrugated metal, a material prone to corrosion after many years in service.

A video inspection on February 12, 2010, found that the majority of the deterioration was directly below the sinkhole. The entire bottom of the pipe at this location was completely corroded. In addition, large holes were observed on the last 120 feet of pipe. The pipe's deterioration reduced its ability to carry the substantial weight of the soil above it and could have caused the pipe's total collapse. This could have caused flooding to the UPRR and 101 corridors, and expansion of the sinkhole into Modoc Road. The condition was a significant concern because of possible impacts from more rain predicted for the coming week.

Staff discussed the situation with the General Services Manager and determined that the situation justified issuing an emergency Purchase Order. On February 13, 2010, Tierra mobilized and began initial construction. The work consisted of replacing 120 feet of corrugated metal pipe with reinforced concrete pipe beneath the eastbound lane and within the shoulder of Modoc Road. All the work was completed by February 19, 2010, just prior to the next rain event.

Issuance of the emergency Purchase Order was necessary to get the project delivered in a timely manner. The work required staff to waive the competitive bid process to allow the contractor to expeditiously pursue and finish the work prior to the next predicted rain event. Issuance of an emergency Purchase Order, with after-the-fact approval by Council, is allowed under the City's Municipal Code Section 4.52.080. The City was invoiced with a final cost of \$87,718 for time and materials.

Prior to construction of the repair, Public Works staff determined that a portion of the storm drain extended onto private property south of the Modoc Road right of way. The pipe existed in this alignment prior to the annexation of Modoc Road by the City and there is no public easement for the repair. As a result, a temporary right of entry was obtained to complete the repair. Pending negotiations with the private owner, staff will return to Council to formally adopt a permanent public easement for the repair and maintenance of the pipe.

PREPARED BY: John Ewasiuk, Principal Civil Engineer/TC/mj

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office