



Staff Report

RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BIDS, APPROVING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$340,230 APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY NOT TO EXCEED \$34,023, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION, LYALL WAY 12" SEWER LINE, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 465

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

Summary

Council is requested to approve advertisement and award of a construction contract to construct a new sanitary sewer, which will replace the existing sewer line located on the steep slope between Ralston Avenue and Lyall Way, abandon portion of the existing sewer trunk and slipline 269 linear feet of pipe.

Background

The City has a 12-inch sewer trunk line serving the San Juan Canyon and the Hallmark/Western Hills neighborhoods. This relatively old sewer was constructed in the alignment of the former Belmont Canyon Road, prior to construction of Ralston Avenue, and so follows a curving path between Lyall Way and Ralston Avenue. This sewer is an especially difficult line to inspect and repair primarily because of the continuously high flows augmented by surges from the San Juan Pump Station and the steep and overgrown terrain between Ralston Avenue and Lyall Way that restricts equipment access.

In the last two years, the maintenance crew has cleared root blockages in this sewer that caused overflows from the manholes into the uninhabited right-of way between Ralston and Lyall. Public Works video-inspected the sewer last fall and identified numerous breaks, offsets, and intruding tree roots that require intensive repairs or a new alignment for the sewer line. In July 2004 Public Works staff asked the City Council to approve advertising and awarding the pipe bursting and pipelining rehabilitation of that sewer line (City Contract Number 462). Eight contractors requested bid packages, but only 2 companies submitted their bids in the amounts higher than the engineering estimate. Public Works staff has evaluated the bid results to determine why there was not more competition for the contract and why the unit prices were

significantly higher than anticipated. The primary reason for the lack of competition was that the project was located on very steep terrain with the depth of manholes varying from 10 feet to 30 feet. Accessing these locations required shoring and Cal OSHA permits. In addition, high flows in the sewer line required by-pass pumping with 3 pumps and tank trucking of the sewage flow to the pump station. These existing conditions discouraged prospective contractors from bidding on this project. Staff were aware of these issues when designing the project but believed it was important to complete repairs on this critical trunk line if practicable. The limited bidding response demonstrated the difficulty of the project. On September 14, 2004, the City Council approved rejecting all bids for the City Contract Number 462. Public Works staff has indicated that the project would be redesigned and the staff will seek Council's approval to advertise the new project for construction in Spring 2005

At present, Public Works staff has completed the design of the new sewer rehabilitation project to construct a new sewer line, which will run along the Lyall Way and abandon a portion of the old 12" sewer line located within a steep terrain between Ralston Avenue and Lyall Way.

Discussion

Staff has designed a construction project that will involve construction of over 1100 linear feet of 12" sewer line, 60 feet of 10" sewer line and 140 feet of 8" sewer line. The new sewer lines will connect to the existing manholes located on Lyall Way and Ralston Avenue. There will be four (4) new sewer manholes constructed along the new pipe in order to increase accessibility of the line. Approximately 700 feet of the existing deteriorated 12" line located within a very steep and overgrown terrain between Ralston and Lyall will be abandoned. Bypass pumping to divert flows around the construction zone will be a significant component of this job. Traffic impacts to Lyall Way are expected to be moderate, primarily because the construction involves open trenching technology. However, the construction will take place in summer time to minimize the impact on school traffic.

Staff requests City Council's approval of the City Contract Number 465 project plans and specifications and authorization to advertise for sealed bids from qualified contractors. The bid opening is scheduled for April 28, 2005. Public Works will hold a mandatory prebid meeting and site walk on April 19, 2005 to ensure that potential bidders understand the complexity of the project. Staff requests Council approval to award a construction contract if the City receives a responsive and responsible bid within the engineer's estimate of \$340,230. In addition, staff requests a construction contingency of 10 percent of the contract price to address unforeseen conditions encountered during construction.

Fiscal Impact

The engineer's estimate for the construction contract work is \$340,230. Staff also requests a 10 percent construction contingency up to \$34,023. Funding for this work will be obtained from the FY05 Capital Improvement Program Sewer Enterprise budget 503-4326-7075-9030 and 503-4326-7056-9030. If the lowest responsible bid exceeds the engineer's estimate, staff will bring a recommendation to Council to either award with justification or to reject all bids.

Public Contact

Publication and posting of City Council agenda. After the project is awarded, the residents and schools located within the 300-foot radius of the project limits will be notified by the Public Works staff as well as by the construction contractor.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council take the following actions for City Contract Number 465, the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, Lyall Way 12” Sewer Line:

1. Approve the construction plans and specifications,
2. Authorize advertisement for sealed bids,
3. Approve award of contract to the lowest responsible bidder for an amount not to exceed \$340,230,
4. Approve a construction contingency equal to 10 percent of the contract price, and
5. Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the lowest responsible bidder.

Alternatives

1. Refer back to staff for further information or other options.
2. Deny the request

Attachments

1. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Bozhena Palatnik
Assistant Civil Engineer

Raymond E. Davis, III
Director of Public Works

Daniel Rich
Interim City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CITY OF BELMONT
San Mateo County, California**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT APPROVING
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED
BIDS, APPROVING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE
BIDDER FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$340,230 APPROVING A
CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY NOT TO EXCEED \$34,023, AND AUTHORIZING
THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SANITARY SEWER
REHABILITATION, LYALL WAY 12" SEWER LINE,
CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 465**

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has prepared plans and specifications for the construction of the new sewer line; and,

WHEREAS, Sewer Enterprise Funds have been budgeted in Fiscal Year 2005 for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The City Council approves City Contract Number 465 plans and specifications.
2. The City Council authorizes advertisement for sealed bids for this work.
3. The City Council approves award of contract to the lowest responsible bidder for an amount not to exceed \$340,230.
4. The City Council approves a construction contingency to be administered by the City Manager for an amount equal to 10 percent of the construction contract.
5. The City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with the lowest responsible bidder.
6. Funding shall be from the FY2005 budget, project account 503-4326-7075-9030 and 503-4326-7056-9030.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on March 22, 2005.

AYES, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBER(S) _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

City Clerk of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

Mayor of the City of Belmont