



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 \$90,000, APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT, AND ALLOW LANE CLOSURES ON RALSTON AVENUE BETWEEN 8AM TO 5PM FOR THE RALSTON AVENUE MEDIAN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 489

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

The Department of Public Works staff requests City Council to authorize advertisement and award of the Ralston Avenue Median Improvement Project, City Contract Number 489. Staff also requests approval to allow lane closures on Ralston Avenue from Cipriani Boulevard to Lyall Way between 8AM and 5PM weekdays. The engineer's estimate for this project is \$90,000.

Background

In 2004, the City constructed the Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas Pavement Rehabilitation Project, City Contract Number 439. This project improved Ralston Avenue from Cipriani Boulevard to El Camino Real and Alameda de las Pulgas from Carlmont Drive to the northern City limit. New medians were added to separate the eastbound and westbound lanes on Ralston Avenue. Several utility sleeves were installed across Ralston Avenue to the median islands for future connections of the irrigation systems. The project was funded by Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Because of the limited federal funding, the installations of the landscaping and irrigation systems were postponed.

Discussion

The Public Works Department has completed the design of the irrigation and tree planting plans. A new irrigation system will be installed in the existing median from Lyall Way to Cipriani Boulevard. Fifty three 15 gallon trees will be planted. The estimated construction cost of the project is \$90,000.

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the project and unanimously supported the inclusion of trees into the project. The implementation of trees during this phase of construction will allow the trees to establish earlier on the Ralston Avenue corridor. The Commission also supported the use of the Tree Fund for the planting of the trees for the project. This phase of the project will be limited to the installation of trees. Other landscaping along the median will be installed in a second phase when funding is available.

Staff also presented the project to the Planning Commission on May 20, 2008 where it was decided that the types of trees to be planted with this project (Coast Redwood, London Plane Tree and Crape Myrtle) are species that have performed well in the City in the past. The Planning Commission unanimously supported the project with minor changes of tree locations.

In order to expedite the construction and minimize the inconvenience to the public, staff proposed lane closures on Ralston Avenue from Lyall Way to Cipriani Boulevard between 8AM to 5PM. No more than one lane in each direction will be closed to traffic at one time. Two lanes of traffic, one in each direction will be maintained at all times. The project allows 30 working days to completion and will begin in mid July. The tentative completion date of the project is early September which is the time when local schools reopen. The impact to traffic is minimal if the 8AM to 5PM lane closure hours are allowed when most of the schools are closed for summer vacation until September 15, 2008.

General Plan/Vision Statement

This project is consistent with the General Plan Policies – Scenic Streets and Highways section (Paragraph 2083), which states “Special design and landscaping features should be established for visually important entrances to the City including the Ralston Avenue, Alameda de las Pulgas and El Camino Real entrances.”

Fiscal Impact

The engineer's estimated cost for City Contract Number 489 is \$90,000. The installation of the irrigation systems of \$78,000 will be funded by the Street Improvements Fund Account 234-4312-3114-9030 from FY2008 and FY2009. Another \$12,000 for tree planting will be obtained from the Tree Fund 208-5801-8610-9030 from FY2008 and FY2009. A ten percent construction contingency will be reserved in each account to address any unforeseen conditions.

Public Contact

Publication and posting of City Council agenda.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council approve plans and specifications, authorize advertisement for sealed bids, approve award of contract to the lowest responsible bidder for an amount not to exceed \$90,000, approve a construction contingency not to exceed \$9,000, authorize the City Manager to execute a contract, and allow lane closures on Ralston Avenue between 8AM to 5PM for the Ralston Avenue Median Improvement Project, City Contract Number 489.

Alternatives

1. Take no action.
2. Refer back to staff for further information.

Attachments

- A. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Gilbert Yau, PE
Senior Civil Engineer

Raymond E. Davis III, PE, PTOE
Director of Public Works

Jack R. Crist
City Manager

Staff Contact:
Gilbert Yau
Phone: (650) 595-7467
gyau@belmont.gov

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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 \$90,000, APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT, AND ALLOW LANE CLOSURES ON RALSTON AVENUE BETWEEN 8AM TO 5PM FOR THE RALSTON AVENUE MEDIAN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 489

WHEREAS, new irrigation systems are proposed to be installed in the existing median on Ralston Avenue between Lyall Way and Cipriani Boulevard; and,

WHEREAS, fifty three trees will be planted with the project; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has prepared plans and specifications for this work; and,

WHEREAS, the Street Improvement Fund and the Parks Operation Fund have been budgeted in Fiscal Year 2008 and Fiscal Year 2009 for this project; and,

WHEREAS, extended lane closure hours would reduce the total numbers of construction days and avoid an overtime-driven budget overrun.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. City Council approves City Contract Number 489 plans and specifications.
2. City Council authorizes advertisement for sealed bids for this work.
3. City Council approves award of contract to the lowest responsible bidder for an amount not to exceed \$90,000, and approves a ten percent construction contingency not to exceed \$9,000.
4. City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract to the lowest responsible bidder.
5. Funding shall be from the FY2008 and FY 2009 budget, project account 234-4312-3114-9030 and 208-5801-8610-9030.
6. Lane closures on Ralston Avenue between Cipriani Boulevard and Lyall Way are allowed between 8AM to 5PM during the weekdays effective to September 15, 2008.

* * * * *

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 May 27, 2008 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont