



Item: Utilities Agreement for Smelter Avenue, from 3rd Street Northwest to Division Road, O.F. 1337

From: Engineering Division

Initiated By: Public Works Department

Presented By: Jim Rearden, Public Works Director

Action Requested: Approve Agreement

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

"I move the City Commission approve the attached utilities agreement with the State of Montana Department of Transportation to include the utility work during the reconstruction of Smelter Avenue from 3rd Street Northwest to Division Road, O.F. 1337, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement."

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls for the vote.

Staff Recommendation: Approve utilities agreement.

Background:

Significant Impacts

This project will provide for the replacement of existing water distribution mains and adjustments to sanitary sewer manholes in conjunction with the State of Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) reconstruction of Smelter Avenue. MDT requires execution of this agreement prior to construction. On January 3, 2012, the City Commission approved the construction and escrow agreements which provided the funding for this utility work.

Citizen Participation

MDT uses a public involvement process to increase public awareness of highway improvement projects and to provide opportunities for the public to become involved in shaping project design and development. MDT conducted a public meeting at Riverview Elementary School in late 2009. MDT issues news releases with point of contact information and the public may go to MDT's website to comment at anytime. In

addition, the contractor will be required to inform the public of general project operations, road closures, traffic control, and other abnormal road conditions resulting from contractor or sub-contractor operations.

Workload Impacts

City engineering designed the water system and coordinated with MDT's design staff to include the water main plans with the highway reconstruction plans. MDT designed the necessary adjustments to the sanitary sewer manholes.

Purpose

This project is part of a continuing improvement and maintenance program to the City's water systems in conjunction and cooperation with the MDT's reconstruction program in the City of Great Falls. MDT is scheduled to reconstruct Smelter Avenue from 3rd Street Northwest to Division Road during the upcoming construction season. The roadway reconstruction will include a roundabout, landscaping, new surfacing, curb and gutter, sidewalk, and a bicycle and pedestrian path.

The City has 2,289 lineal feet of water distribution mains in Smelter Avenue and Division Road that will be replaced during the reconstruction of the roadway. MDT will adjust nine sanitary sewer manholes and one fire hydrant that are affected by the reconstruction.

Evaluation and Selection Process

The Utilities Agreement is a two-party agreement between the City of Great Falls and MDT. The agreement grants MDT the authority to adjust, replace, repair and relocate the facilities that are under the jurisdiction of the City and are directly affected by the construction of the roadway. The State will pay \$14,122.21 towards the cost of sewer and water adjustments, and for water services. The City will pay the costs of the water main betterment work plus portions of the traffic control, mobilization and indirect cost charges. The total cost to the City of Great Falls is estimated to be \$319,126.52.

Concurrences:

Montana Department of Transportation

Fiscal Impact:

Payment for the utility work will be based upon bid prices and will be drawn from water funds set up through an Escrow Agreement approved by the City Commission on January 3, 2012.

Alternatives:

The City Commission could vote to deny approval of the utilities agreement.

Attachments/Exhibits:

Utilities Agreement (2 originals) (Not available online; on file in City Clerk's Office.)