



CITY OF WHEATLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

January 22, 2019

SUBJECT: Malone Culvert Failure – Termination of Emergency Status
PREPARED BY: Dane H. Schilling – City Engineer

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 05-19 terminating the City Council's emergency finding for the Malone Culvert failure incident.

Background/Discussion

Malone Avenue was established with other roads in Wheatland at incorporation. Malone Avenue crosses over South Grasshopper Slough (formerly Baxter Slough) approximately 400-ft south of Main Street. The road was constructed over the slough with an elliptical corrugated steel plate arch culvert ("culvert") that is approximately 5-ft tall by 8-ft wide. The steel plates are bolted together and secured to the ground with two concrete footings along the bottom edges of the culvert. The culvert has a soil invert (natural bottom) and the cover over the pipe is very thin at approximately 18- to 20-inches. A high-pressure gas main, telephone duct, a water main and sewer mains cross under, over and around the culvert. In recent years the southerly footing sheared apart and displaced vertically near the middle of the structure. City staff has been monitoring the condition of the structure for several years.

On March 22, 2018, City staff became aware that the culvert was failing catastrophically during a storm event and the road was closed due to safety concerns. Malone Avenue is the primary access to the City's wastewater treatment plant. Staff made arrangements with Reclamation District 2103 to use the Bear River Levee as an alternative means of access. However, making left-turns from the levee road onto Highway 65 is difficult due to limited sight distance combined with highway speeds, and even more difficult in larger utility vehicles.

Staff recommended performing the removal of the existing structure and backfill under an emergency resolution to ensure removal can be completed before seasonal run-off began in South Grasshopper Slough.

On July 24, 2018, Pursuant to California Public Contract Code 22050 the City Council found that the situation warranted emergency action and authorized emergency contracting for repairs to the Malone Avenue Culvert. The City Council voted to continue the emergency action at subsequent Council Meetings as required by the Public Contract Code.

On September 24, 2018, the City received bids for the removal of the failed culvert and awarded a contract to B&M Builders in the amount of \$41,725. During the course of the removal work it was discovered that a City's force main, a small waterline and a small natural gas service were constructed over the culvert causing the need to revise the scope of the contractor's work and issue a change order to relocate these utilities. The work performed by B&M is nearly complete and Phase 2 design work is underway. Staff anticipates bidding the second phase (the new culvert) in April 2019. With the completion of the removal work, the waterway is now clear of obstructions and storm water may flow freely. The roadway remains closed until Phase 2 is complete. Replacement of the culvert will not be possible until the engineering design is completed, and the slough is dry enough for excavation to commence.

Alternatives

Alternatively, the City Council may choose to not terminate the emergency and continue with the replacement phase of the project under the provisions of Public Contract Code section 22050 which will allow for informal bidding.

Fiscal Impact

There is no direct fiscal impact from the proposed action.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 05-19

RESOLUTION NO. 05-19

RESOLUTION TERMINATING A FINDING FOR EMERGENCY ACTION REGARDING THE FAILURE OF THE MALONE AVENUE CULVERT OVER SOUTH GRASSHOPPER SLOUGH

WHEREAS, in March 2018, the culvert structure ("Malone Culvert") that carries Malone Avenue over South Grasshopper Slough (formerly Baxter Slough) catastrophically failed and that portion of Malone Avenue in the vicinity of the culvert was closed by the City to ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2018, Pursuant to California Public Contract Code 22050 the City Council of the City of Wheatland found that the failure of Malone Culvert warranted emergency action and authorized emergency contracting for repairs to the Malone Avenue Culvert; and

WHEREAS, the City Council voted to continue the emergency action at subsequent Council Meetings as required by the Public Contract Code; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wheatland produced construction plans, obtained environmental clearances, informally solicited bids, and awarded a contract to remove the existing structure to allow the passage of stormwater; and

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2019, the removal of the failed Malone Culvert and restoration of South Grasshopper Slough to allow for the passage of water in the slough is substantially complete.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, ORDERED AND FOUND by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California, that, pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050, emergency action by the City is no longer necessary regarding the failure of the Malone Avenue Culvert at South Grasshopper Slough, and the City hereby terminates the July 24, 2018, finding for emergency action.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California this 22th day of January 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Joseph Henderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Thomason, City Clerk