



CITY OF WHEATLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

April 23, 2019

SUBJECT: Approve Plans and Specifications, and Authorize Bidding of the Hooper Street Improvement Project

PREPARED BY: Dane H. Schilling – City Engineer, and
Asa Utterback – Coastland Engineering

Recommendation

Adopt a resolution approving the plans and technical specifications, and authorize the City Engineer to proceed with the bidding process for the construction of the Hooper Street Improvement Project.

Background/Discussion

Hooper Street from Highway 65 to Olive Street fronts Wheatland Elementary School and serves as the primary route from the north end of the city for school buses, students and school staff that access the school properties in the area. The road surface in this segment is in poor condition with persistent potholes that require continued maintenance. This area is also known for being congested with pedestrians and vehicles before and after school.

Wheatland Elementary School has diagonal parking and a concrete sidewalk along the westerly side on school property. Paved diagonal parking is present on the easterly side of Hooper Street without any other improvements and is within the City's 50-ft road right-of-way.

During school drop-off and pick-up times this road segment becomes congested with cars parking to drop students off, cars passing through to drop students in the rear drop-off area created by the school, cars passing through the City on Hwy-65 who are attempting to short-cut around the traffic back-up at the traffic signal at First Street and students walking to the front of the school from surrounding neighborhoods and from vehicles.

On October 9, 2018, the City Engineer presented concepts for the City Council's consideration and input for a potential project along Hooper Street that would attempt to meet the following objectives:

- Improve safety for motorist and students (pedestrians).
- Improve the quality of the road surface to increase safety and reduce maintenance.
- Enhance the aesthetics of the area.

- Create a barrier to prevent trespassing from vehicles associated with the school onto the property to the east.
- Provide safe and accessible public parking to serve the school and the adjacent business.

Input received from the City Council on October 9, 2018, included:

- Support for the general concepts stated above.
- Include diagonal parking (not parallel parking) along the easterly side of Hooper Street.
- Include a sidewalk along the easterly side of Hooper Street.
- Include high visibility raised crosswalks with bulb-outs at two locations.
- Reduce the width of the one-way travel lane for traffic calming.
- Look at additional striping at Hwy-65 to delineate the local street.
- Include landscape areas as possible to enhance aesthetics of the area.
- Include a right-turn pocket and stacking lane on Hwy-65.

Since the October 9th Council meeting, Staff met with Wheatland School District Superintendent Craig Guensler to gauge the school district's interest in the proposed project and their potential financial participation. Superintendent Guensler provided feedback on what elements are important to the District and indicated that the District could contribute up to \$50,000 in funds toward improvements – specifically the raised crosswalks.

Staff has also met with the adjacent property owner Mr. Raj Sharma. Mr. Sharma did not oppose the proposed project but did want to include a driveway from Hooper Street to his property. Staff investigated the feasibility and costs associated with this request, and determined that adding a driveway at this location was not feasible primarily due to the extensive drainage system modifications that would be required and limited width of the parcel.

On November 27, 2018, the City Council adopted a resolution amending the adopted FY 2018-19 Budget, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a funding agreement with the Wheatland School District and authorizing the City Manager to proceed with design of the Hooper Street Improvement Project.

Coastland Engineering proceeded with surveying and final design of the project. Staff also met with the School District to confirm the design, as it developed, was acceptable to the District. Cost estimates for the project are \$49,525 higher than the earlier conceptual estimate. The increases are primarily due to the addition of a right-turn pocket on Hwy-65 and landscaping which were not included in the conceptual estimate. Staff is proposing the use of FY19-20 SB1 revenue to cover the additional items. The Project plans are attached with this report, and technical specifications and a detailed cost estimate are available upon request.

With Council authorization and receipt of an encroachment permit from Caltrans, the project would be bid in May, the construction contract would be awarded in June and construction completed before the new school year starts on August 14, 2019.

Staff has determined that no significant environmental impacts could occur as a result of this project and therefore the project is categorically exempt under CEQA.

Alternatives

Alternatively, the City Council may choose to not to authorize the bidding of the project or modify the scope of the project.

Fiscal Impact

The current estimate of project costs is also given below.

Hooper Street Improvement Project - Budget Estimate

Funding	CURRENT COST ESTIMATE 23-Apr-2019
Gas Tax-Capital Outlay	\$ 65,000
Gas Tax-Anticipated cash available	\$ 41,000
TDA	\$ 168,000
Wheatland School District	\$ 50,000
SB1 FY19-20	\$ 48,900
TOTAL	\$ 372,900
Expenditures	
Project Management, Design and Environmental	\$ 45,000
Construction	\$ 274,000
Construction Management & Inspection	\$ 19,900
Subtotal	\$ 338,900
Contingency (20% conceptual stage, 10% for final design)	\$ 34,000
TOTAL	\$ 372,900

Attachments

1. Resolution
2. Construction Drawings for Hooper Street Improvement Project