

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
August 19, 2014	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Jim Hossley, Public Works Director

THROUGH: Rodger Craddock, City Manager

ISSUE: Emergency Sewer Project along the vacated N. 3rd Street between Park and Highland Avenue

BACKGROUND:

A homeowner contacted the City regarding a sewer backup up at 294 Highland Avenue. He was currently working with a private plumber and the plumber cleaned the lateral line and indicated to the owner that the blockage must be in the public line. City crews cleaned the main line and determined the blockage was dirt and debris that entered into the system because the system had failed approximately 20 feet downstream of the private lateral connection. The system is located in the vacated portion of N. 3rd Street between Park and Highland Avenue. The system is an existing 10 inch clay pipe that was constructed in 1916. Upon further investigation upstream and downstream of failure it was determined that the pipe has numerous deficiencies and failures and needs to be replaced before further damage occurs. The system is approximately 300 feet in length.

Based on Section 11 (titled Emergency Contracts) of the City's Purchasing Rules it states that the Director may declare an emergency with the price under \$50,000 and provide findings, which are described below, to make a prompt execution of the contract. Quotes and Bids are not required; however, the Engineering Department is expediting an RFQ to obtain three quotes to attempt to obtain a competitive price to repair this emergency situation. This is discussed in more detail below.

For the City to expedite the repair, the City's contract rules Ordinance No. 365 does allow for a contracting method that is different than the normal approach. For projects under \$50,000, Section 11, (a) of the contracting rules applies and is provided below:

Section 11. Emergency Contracts.

(a) Emergency Contracts Under \$50,000. The Board may let public contracts without competitive procurement if an emergency exists. For the purposes of this rule, an emergency consists of circumstances creating an unforeseen and substantial risk of loss or damage to property, a significant interruption of governmental services or a threat to public health or safety which requires prompt execution of a contract to remedy the condition.

(1) The Director may declare an emergency, which shall authorize the City to enter into an emergency contract with a price under \$50,000. The Director must make written findings describing the emergency conditions necessitating prompt execution of the contract.

(2) Any contract awarded under this exemption shall be awarded within 60 days

following declaration of the emergency unless an extension is granted by the Board.

In accordance with (a) (1) above, the findings describing the emergency conditions necessitating the prompt execution of the contract are as follows:

With the numerous deficiencies identified in the video investigation, the pipe is not safely conveying sewer to the downstream system. The raw sewage has the potential to contaminate the soil around the pipe due to the missing sections and cause sinkholes. Furthermore, it is a matter of time before the pipe gets blocked again and causes a backup (again) to 294 Highland Avenue and potentially the other buildings that are connected to this system. Broken sewer pipes can release dangerous amounts of potentially harmful bacteria and it can release dangerous gases. Sewer gas can find its way through cracks in the road, sidewalks and yards (gopher holes etc.). All of these situations have the potential to affect public health. To ensure no further damages occur and to protect public health the main sewer line, located along the vacated portion of N. 3rd Street between Park and Highland Avenue, must be replaced as soon as possible.

City staff is performing research on the number of buildings and homes that are connected to the system. The collection crew is dye testing to confirm the number of lateral connections. Staff is also researching other potential utility conflicts and obtaining easement information to perform this work. Time permitting (i.e. no other failures occur), staff has the ability to obtain emergency quotes so that a competitive bid process can occur. It is anticipated that these quotes will be obtained by August 22, 2014. Staff has prepared preliminary quantities and estimates that the work will not exceed \$50,000.

ADVANTAGES:

Awarding a contract through the City's emergency procurement process will allow the City to meet the time constraints in place that require repairs be made as soon as possible. The timely repair will minimize further damage to the adjacent home, businesses and property, and potentially prevent any damage from occurring to the improved portion of the street, thus prevent the City from incurring additional repair costs.

DISADVANTAGES:

Staff sees no disadvantages.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

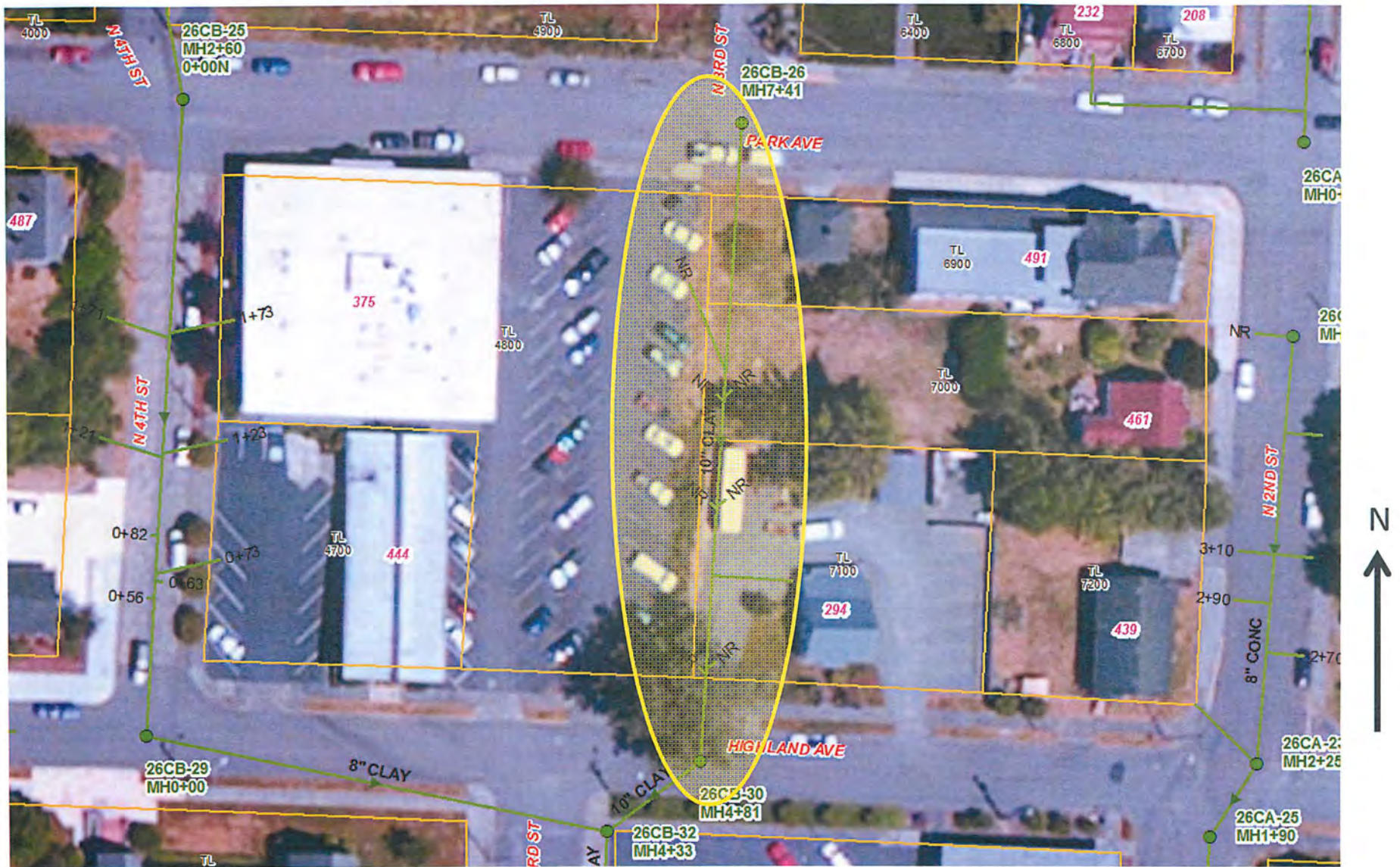
Quotes are anticipated to be received by August 22, 2014. Based on preliminary cost estimates performed by Staff, costs will not exceed \$50,000. The source of funds for this contract is the Wastewater Expenditures Fund, Collection Systems/Sanitary Department, and Wastewater Emergency Repairs (29-810-530-3010).

RELATED CITY GOAL:

The approval of this amendment will help the City meet the goal that states, "Infrastructure and Services: To maintain and improve the City's physical infrastructure and provide quality services for current and future citizens." This project will help Ensure that the City can protect and enhance the useful life of their utilities and facilities.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases the Council, approve the award of the emergency contract for the sanitary sewer replacement on N. 3rd Street between Park and Highland Avenue to the low bidder (to be determined) for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 pursuant to the Emergency Contract rules found in Section 11 of City of Coos Bay Ordinance O-365.



Emergency Sewer Replacement Project Location