

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
August 4, 2015	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Jessica Spann, Engineering Services Coordinator

THROUGH: Jim Hossley, Public Works Director 
Rodger Craddock, City Manager 

ISSUE: After the Fact Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair Project on Highway 101 South Bound North of Alder Avenue

BACKGROUND:

During a routine maintenance cleaning, the City's contract sewer collection crew identified a collapsed segment of 8 inch clay sanitary sewer pipe located under southbound Highway 101. The segment is located approximately 256 feet to the north of Alder Avenue. The length of the collapsed segment was approximately 6 feet and was originally constructed in 1919.

Staff was able to coordinate with Benny Hempstead Excavating Inc. on the same day the collapsed pipe was discovered and they were able to mobilize in a timely fashion. Per ODOT's request, the work was completed at night for safety reasons and to minimize impacts to traffic.

Based on Section 11 (titled Emergency Contracts) of the City's Contracting Rules (Resolution 08-02), the Director may declare an emergency for work with a price under \$50,000 and provide findings, which are described below, to make a prompt execution of the contract. For the city to expedite the repair, the city's purchasing rules 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:

Due to the historic problems with this line such as low flows, grease buildup etc. the collection crew has deemed this to be on the bad line list which is on a schedule to be cleaned once every three months. The collapsed segment of pipe prevents the collection crew from maintaining this line and potentially could cause further damage to the pipe, adjacent pipes, manholes and highway 101. The existing depression gave evidence that the material underneath the surface was moving and immediate repair of the sanitary sewer segment was critical to prevent further damage. The City's regular/standard procurement method would have delayed the emergency repair and potentially caused more damage.

Furthermore, the sewer was not being safely conveyed to the downstream system. The raw sewage had the potential to contaminate the soil around the pipe due to the collapsed section and cause a sinkhole, damage to the street and adjacent utilities. 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.

ADVANTAGES:

Awarding the contract through the City's emergency procurement process allowed the City to complete the required repairs as soon as possible. The timely repair minimized further damage to adjacent pipes, manholes and prevented further damage from occurring to southbound Highway 101 thus preventing the City from incurring additional repair costs.

DISADVANTAGES:

Staff sees no disadvantages.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Due to the emergency nature of the project, it was determined to contract with Benny Hempstead Excavating Inc., on a time and material basis. Staff was on site at all times to observe and direct work. The total repair was \$23,135.96. The source of funds for this contract is the Wastewater Expenditures Fund, Collection Systems/Sanitary Department, and Wastewater Emergency Repairs (29-810-530-3010).

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases the Council, approve the award of the emergency contract (after the fact) for the sanitary sewer repair project north of Alder Avenue on highway 101 south bound to Benny Hempstead Excavating Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$23,135.96 pursuant to Section 11, City of Coos Bay Public Contracting Rules.

