



Office of the City Manager

RECESS ITEM
CONSENT CALENDAR
September 28, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Liam Garland, Director, Public Works
Subject: Contract No. 32100192 Amendment: California Constructores for Construction of Pedestrian Improvements at California Street/Dwight Way Intersection

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during recess to amend Contract No. 32100192 with California Constructores for work on the Fiscal Year 2020 Sidewalk Repairs Project, Specification No. 20-11409-C, to perform safety-related pedestrian improvements at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection, increasing the current contract amount by up to \$175,900, for a total amount not to exceed \$2,175,900.

NEGATIVE EFFECT IF ACTION IS DELAYED UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL RECESS

If action is delayed until after Council recess, the proposed safety-related pedestrian improvements at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection will be delayed. The proposed Work is in response to councilmembers' recent requests to expedite safety-related improvements since California Street is a designated Bicycle Boulevard and a well-traveled route by children to nearby Longfellow Middle School.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding for this contract amendment will be appropriated in FY 2022 via the First Amendment to the Annual Appropriations Ordinance from the General Fund (011).

No other funding is required and no other projects will be delayed due to this expenditure.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Original Contract. | \$2,000,000 |
| This Amendment | \$175,900 |
| Amended Contract Amount | \$2,175,900 |

The amount of this increase to the contract, \$175,900, includes a 20% construction contingency.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

This contract amendment is necessary to replenish the construction contract contingency for the identified contract indicated above, which will be depleted to cover construction costs for the California Street/Dwight Way intersection Work.

Public Works staff requested informal bids from three contractors, each with an ongoing construction project with the City's Public Works Department that closely resembles the proposed Work, based on a pre-established set of design documents. Staff selected the contractor that provided the lowest price, California Constructores.

The proposed pedestrian improvements constitute the first phase to improve pedestrian and bicycle crossing safety across Dwight Way. This first phase will include relocating an existing crosswalk to normalize the intersection and improve sight lines, associated sidewalk extensions to reduce the crossing distance of the relocated crosswalk, and installing sidewalk curb ramps to provide an accessible route for pedestrians.

A future second phase would involve installing traffic calming feature(s) to aid pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Dwight Way at this intersection. If the traffic calming feature(s) include diverting traffic off of California Street, City traffic engineering staff would perform associated analyses of pre- and post-construction measurements of vehicle volumes, turning movements, and speeds, along with pedestrian and bicycle counts, to evaluate whether additional traffic calming measures are necessary on nearby streets. The scope and cost of a second phase is not included in this contract amendment.

BACKGROUND

The evaluation of traffic controls at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection originated as a Council referral in October 2017, as a result of public concern about safety, particularly with children, as California Street is a well-traveled route to nearby Longfellow Middle School. The California Street/Dwight Way intersection improvements became a capital project in 2018.

Safety issues and proposed work at this intersection were discussed at events with the public and nearby residents and in Transportation Commission meetings, the most recent being a community meeting in May 2021. Design concepts were developed by City traffic engineering staff in 2019 but stopped shy of detailed design due to staffing shortages. In response to requests to advance this safety improvement project in an expedited manner, City staff restarted the designs in April 2021 by utilizing a limited window of staff availability and by reprioritizing project commitments.

City staff plans to begin construction work for the Phase 1 pedestrian improvements in late summer/early fall 2021. City staff have evaluated various project delivery methods and have concluded that the best way to accomplish the work on an expedited schedule is to perform the work as an amendment to an existing construction contract with a similar scope. Because the work is below \$200,000, a formal invitation for bid is not required.

The provided services will support the Strategic Plan goals of creating a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city and providing state-of-the-art, well-maintained facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The proposed pedestrian improvements at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection promote walking, which is a clean transportation option.

The proposed improvements comply with the 2020 Berkeley Vision Zero Action Plan, which indicates that safety is the City's highest priority and that the City will create safer transportation options for people who walk, bike, and take transit.

Creating safety improvements for pedestrians is expected to result in an increase in walking. An increase in this activity would help the City achieve the 2009 Berkeley Climate Action Plan Policy 5.a that calls for expanding and improving Berkeley's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. The Plan sets targets of reducing transportation emissions 33 percent below year 2000 levels by 2020, and 80 percent below year 2000 levels by 2050. The Plan further states that transportation modes such as public transit, walking, and bicycling must become the primary means of fulfilling the City's mobility needs in order to meet these targets.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Contracted services are required for the proposed pedestrian improvement work, as the City does not have the in-house expertise to complete this specialized work.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

City staff explored other project delivery methods, including publicly bidding the work, but these methods could not achieve the desired goal to complete the construction in an expedited timeframe.

CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Transportation Manager, (510) 981-7061
Kenneth Jung, Associate Civil Engineer, (510) 981-7028

Attachment:
1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

RECESS ITEM: CONTRACT NO. 32100192 AMENDMENT:
CONSTRUCTION OF PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CALIFORNIA
STREET/DWIGHT WAY INTERSECTION

WHEREAS, the need for safety-related improvements at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection was identified in a City of Berkeley Council referral; and

WHEREAS, Public Works staff have engaged the community and performed public outreach regarding proposed safety-related improvements at this intersection, and detailed engineering plans for the proposed work have been prepared; and

WHEREAS, members of the public and Councilmembers have expressed strong interest in expediting the construction of the proposed pedestrian improvements; and

WHEREAS, The City has neither the labor nor the equipment necessary to undertake the proposed construction work; and

WHEREAS, Public Works staff have identified a project delivery method that can expedite the construction work, which involves amending an existing construction contract with similar types of work; and

WHEREAS, three contractors, each with an ongoing construction project with the City's Public Works Department that closely resembles the proposed work, were given an opportunity to provide a price to perform the proposed work as an amendment to their existing contract; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021 by Resolution No. 69,821-N.S., the City Council authorized Contract No. 32100192 with California Constructores in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 for work on the Fiscal Year 2020 Sidewalk Repairs Project, Specification No. 20-11409-C; and

WHEREAS, City staff selected the contractor that provided the lowest price for the proposed work: California Constructores, under Contract No. 32100192; and

WHEREAS, an amendment for a not-to-exceed amount of \$175,900, which includes a 20 percent construction contingency, is needed to replenish the construction contract contingency for Contract No. 32100192, which will be depleted to cover construction costs for the proposed work; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funding will be appropriated in FY 2022 via the first amendment to the annual appropriations ordinance (AAO#1) from the General Fund (011).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32100192 with California Constructores for work on the Fiscal Year 2020 Sidewalk Repairs Project, Specification No. 20-11409-C, to perform safety-related pedestrian improvements at the California Street/Dwight Way intersection, increasing the current contract amount by up to \$175,900, for a total amount not to exceed \$2,175,900. A record signature copy of the agreement and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

