

JOINT CONSERVATION/PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT
August 5, 2009, 2:05 PM
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Jason Wiener (Chair), Ed Childers, John Hendrickson, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Pam Walzer, Jon Wilkins, Marilyn Marler

Members Absent: Dick Haines, Dave Strohmaier

Others Present: Steve King, Doug Harby, Bruce Bender, Gregg Wood, Donna Gaukler

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

- C. Approval of the minutes of [July 29](#) & August 3, 2009 – Approved as submitted
- B. Announcements – None
- C. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items – None

II. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with HDR, Inc. for engineering design and construction services for the Reserve Street sewer main replacement project for an amount not to exceed \$36,000 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Kevin Slovarp) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with HDR, Inc. for engineering design and construction services for the Reserve Street Sewer Main Replacement Project for an amount not to exceed \$36,000.

Steve King, Public Works Director, stated that the contract was for repair of an existing sewer line in the North Reserve Street area which transports everything south of the river goes into the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The pipe has a great deal of turbulence which creates corrosive gases which in turn have deteriorated the concrete pipe. During high ground water in the spring, water entered the pipe and was transported to WWTP. The 400 ft section of pipe is deteriorated and needs repair and reconstruction. Sewer replacement and depreciation funds will be used. The total cost for design, bidding, and administration of the project is \$36,000. Exhibit A in the attachment was incorrect; there should be three meetings instead of five and the dollar amount is not to exceed \$36,000.

Jon Wilkins arrived.

Ms. Walzer made the motion to authorize the contract.

Mr. Hendrickson asked if there were other places in the sewer system with the same dynamics. Mr. King stated that the turbulence and gas creation in this pipe was isolated and unique to that location, because the pipe and junction were larger than average. They have done some replacements downtown, and they check pipes regularly for problems.

Mr. Jaffe stated he was in favor of the contract. He asked whether sewage was seeping out of the pipe. Mr. King stated that the corrosion was in the top portion of the pipe, in the air. The bottom portion where the sewage flows was in the best shape. Outflow was relatively low.

Mr. Childers asked how much extra water was coming into the WWTP and what the plant's capacity was. Mr. King stated that it was millions of gallons and the plant capacity was 12 million gallons, but it could handle peaks higher than that for a short duration. It was not an emergency situation, but should be done this year.

Mr. Jaffe asked if was reasonable to assume it caused a 25% increase in processing at the plant and what the cost of that was. Mr. King stated it was a reasonable assumption, but could not quantify the cost. It would be a cost savings to repair that section of pipe. The current contract is for engineering only, and they will be back with a bid to do the construction.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review bids for SID-545 Philips Street traffic calming improvement project, award bid to lowest responsible bidder and authorize return of bid bonds (memo).—Regular Agenda (Monte Sipe)
(Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council award the bid for SID-545, Philips Street Traffic Calming Improvements to LS Jensen, the base bid of \$13,980 and Alternate No. 1 at \$2,160 for a total sum of \$16,140 and authorize return of bid bonds.

Doug Harby, Construction Project Manager, stated that the bids came in below the estimate, which was \$26,000. The SID, which was approved previously, will provide traffic calming at three intersections on Philips Street. There were three bidders. Property owners had requested additional medians in the Safe Routes to Schools project if bids came in low, so they are talking about that possibility. The cost will be adjusted, and there is both Capital Improvement Program and SID money in the project. They recommend the bid award with alternate bid one, which includes stamping and coloring the bulb-outs.

Mr. Hendrickson made the motion to award the bid.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign for and utilize \$380,000 of Montana House Bill 645 Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-045a “Playground Installations.” (memo).—Regular Agenda (Donna Gaukler)
(Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council pass a resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign for and utilize \$380,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-045a “Playground Installations.”

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign for and utilize \$20,000 of Montana House Bill 645 Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-045b “Greenough Park Bridge Installation and Bank Stabilization” (memo).—Regular Agenda (Donna Gaukler) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign for and utilize \$20,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-045b “Greenough Park Bridge Installation and Bank Stabilization.”

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign for and utilize \$240,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-043 “Brooks Street Curb and Sidewalk Upgrades” (memo).—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign for and utilize \$240,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-043 “Brooks Street Curb and Sidewalk Upgrades.”

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign for and utilize \$237,000 of Montana House Bill 645 Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-044 “Curb Ramp Upgrades” (memo).—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council pass a resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign for and Utilize \$237,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-044“Curb Ramp Upgrades.”

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign for and utilize \$190,000 of Montana House Bill 645 Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-042 "North Higgins Paving" ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign for and utilize \$190,000 of Montana House Bill Grant Funds for City Project No. 2009-042 "North Higgins Paving."

Mr. Harby stated that House Bill 645 provided \$10 million for infrastructure for cities and towns. Missoula submitted a project on North Higgins and another for handicap ramps. North Higgins was subsequently partially funded through American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) money. The bill did not contain specific amounts, just allocations to each local government in the formula used to distribute gas tax revenues, which equaled one million sixty-seven thousand dollars to the City of Missoula. The money is from the State's general fund, but they must comply with the intent of ARRA funds for transparency and accountability. The North Higgins and handicap ramps projects were specifically listed in the bill, but no amount was placed on them. This allowed staff to change the scope of the projects, providing that they met the criteria, which included both roads and parks.

Projects include playground installation, the Greenough Park bridge installation, North Higgins, Brooks Street curbing and handicap access, and curb ramp installation. The North Higgins ARRA funds will not pay for asphalt or striping, so these funds will cover that. These items are all resolutions authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreements and contracts to speed up the process and meet timelines. They will involve Council with information items as plans progress.

Donna Gaukler, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that this was one of the few funding sources where parks infrastructure was eligible. Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) items are restroom replacements, playground replacement, irrigation updates, and asphalt repairs. Due to tracking and wage requirements, they decided the best use of the money was to compile a group of projects to provide straightforward reporting, and still create something visible for neighborhoods. The playgrounds they are suggesting are lower Lafray Park, Boyd, Sacajawea, and Marilyn. Boyd, Sacajawea and Marilyn parks are three of the four playgrounds listed for replacement in FY11 and FY12 and keep getting pushed back due to a lack of funding. They hope to do all the projects so they can be bid together to reduce time and scope. High water in Greenough Park created a disruption in the stream, tore away beams for bridge, and is eroding the bank where the park is close to Greenough Drive. They will restore high water flood protection for the side channel, repair where the creek will wash away the commuter trail, and put the bridge back, which they are continuing to fundraise for. Little McCormick Park was also a priority, but they are trying to spread funds throughout all neighborhoods as much as possible.

Mr. Wilkins asked about Whitaker Park where they had to remove a swing set that was unsafe and whether it was possible to replace that. Ms. Gaukler stated they have at least 15 playgrounds that need replacement, so they took the top three on the list. If they tried to break it into smaller pieces, they would be unable to complete any project. The fall zone material and safety requirements mean that they would not get the same return on investment for a swing set as for four playgrounds. The promise to replace the swing set was dependent on available funding. Mr. Wilkins stated that the small children in his ward could not walk down the hill to other parks, and whatever they could do to replace the swing set would be good.

In response to a question from Ms. Walzer, Ms. Gaukler stated that it was their intent to offer bidding on individual parks and as a large packet.

Ms. Marler asked whether other plans had already been in place for the Greenough Park bridge replacement. She also stated that she thought Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) was not aware of the stream bank stabilization and wasn't ready to issue a permit yet. She asked if the project was shovel-ready. Ms. Gaukler stated that the engineering had been completed, but they had not gotten permits yet because the funding was not in place and the permits expire. FWP had been involved in engineering discussions and had been onsite with the engineers. She would make sure they had received final drawings and coordinate with them so the timing did not affect the trout.

Mr. Hendrickson asked for the average setup cost of a swing set and whether the \$20,000 for Greenough Park would cover that. Ms. Gaukler stated that swings were the most expensive installation per number of children who could use it. The smallest playground for the least amount of money they have installed was a climbing boulder for \$15,000 on an already established site. Their preliminary bids and projections range from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Mr. Hendrickson made the motion to approve all five resolutions.

Errors in numbers on the resolutions were corrected and accepted as friendly amendments. The dollar amounts on the agenda were correct and the resolutions would be updated.

Mr. Wilkins stated they were not asking for a bunch of playground equipment at Whitaker, just two swings, and asked how much that would cost. Ms. Gaukler stated she could not recall the condition of the fall zone material and surrounding boundaries, but her guess was that the cost would be \$30,000 to \$35,000, if they did not have to pay Davis-Bacon wages as required in HB 645, due to the demolition and installation of the fall zone and borders. Mr. Wilkins stated he would like other parks in Ward 4 besides Playfair to be addressed. Ms. Gaukler stated that they were working with the parks subcommittee of the Farviews and Pattee Canyon neighborhoods to obtain grants, trail connections, and signage.

Mr. Hendrickson asked when the projects would be done. Ms. Gaukler stated that the deadline was September 2010, and the projects would be completed by then.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Grant a public sanitary sewer easement for SID 544 – Rattlesnake Sewer Project in Hamilton Park.
(memo) – Regular Agenda (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 08/03/09) REMOVE FROM AGENDA

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council grant an easement to allow a sanitary sewer main to be installed in Hamilton Park in accordance with the attached Public Sanitary Sewer Easement.

Gregg Wood, Project Development Coordinator, stated that they recommend Council grant an easement to allow sewer main installation in Hamilton Park, on the west side of Duncan Drive in the Rattlesnake, part of SID 544. Installing a sewer main in the park would allow citizens to connect to a gravity feed from the septic systems in their back yards. The Parks and Recreation Board recommended approval on July 28.

Mr. Wilkins made the motion to approve the easement.

Mr. Wiener asked whether there was an existing easement on the park land. Mr. Wood replied that there was trail access off of Village Place, and they would try to get outside the tree line but close to the adjacent properties.

Ms. Walzer asked whether there was sewer down Village Place. Mr. Wood replied that there was a manhole scheduled at the end of Village Place that this pipe will connect to.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wilkins asked about the bulb-out at Park and South. He stated it was a long way from the intersection and the crosswalk, and wondered if it eliminated the bike lane. Mr. Harby stated that it was a Safe Routes to Schools installation and they needed to accommodate the existing driveway while still increasing visibility. They reduce the bike lane slightly at the bulb-out out of necessity and to increase awareness of bicyclists that they must also stop for children at crosswalks. The bike lane reduction was reviewed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian coordinator. Mr. King stated that there was a compromise between pedestrian safety and bike operations.

III. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion on the sizes of grease interceptors for the restaurant industry ([Grease Interceptor PowerPoint](#)) ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Stacy Rye and Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 04/21/08)
2. Consider restructuring the city's Sewer Loan Program along the lines of the recently approved change to the Sidewalk & Curb Loan Fund.—Regular Agenda ([Chapter 3.16 – Sidewalk & Curb Loan](#)) ([Chapter 3.18 Sewer Loan](#)) ([Ordinance 3344](#)) (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 06/26/06)
3. Discussion item to consider vacating portions of an 1896 petition County road on the westerly side of Miller Creek Road. ([memo](#)) (Monte Sipe) (Referred to committee: 10/6/08)
4. Discussion item regarding complete streets. ([memo](#)) (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 10/27/08)
5. Information item to present the City's Master Sidewalk Plan. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 01/12/09)
6. Discussion of local, city-sponsored energy production ([memo](#)). (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 12/22/08)
7. Discussion on the leaf removal program ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 06/08/09)
8. [Resolution](#) of intention to close and vacate certain portions of Miller Creek Road and Lower Miller Creek Road generally located between Briggs and the "Wye". ([Resolution A](#)) ([Resolution B](#)) ([Staff Report](#)) ([map-6 MB file size](#)) ([memo](#)) ([PW](#)) (Returned from Council floor: 4/13/09)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica S. Miller
Office Manager
City Public Works Department