



STAFF REPORT

February 7, 2024
File Number 0600-10; A-3493

SUBJECT

AWARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR GRAND AVENUE VISION PROJECT – PHASE 2

DEPARTMENT

Development Services

RECOMMENDATION

It is requested that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-159 awarding the Grand Avenue Vision Plan Phase 2 ("Project") to Nationwide Contracting Services Inc. ("Nationwide"), determined to be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, and authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to execute a Public Improvement Agreement with Nationwide in the amount of \$9,082,789.12 for construction of the Project.

Staff Recommendation: Approval (Chris McKinney, Deputy City Manager, and Julie Procopio, City Engineer)

Presenter: Jonathan Schauble, Principal Engineer

FISCAL ANALYSIS

The Project is included in the Capital Improvement Program budget and is funded with American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funds and TransNet funds. The programmed funds for the Project are sufficient to fund the construction and management of the Phase II project.

BACKGROUND

This Project is the second phase of the City's Grand Avenue Vision Plan that includes the widening of sidewalk, placement of fencing around permanent outdoor dining areas, re-striping, and landscaping from Maple Street to Juniper Street. In addition, traffic circles will be constructed at the intersections of Grand Avenue and North Broadway, and Grand Avenue and Kalmia Street per the adopted Grand Avenue Vision Plan. Festoon and street lighting will also be added between Kalmia and Juniper.

A future, third phase, of the Grand Avenue Vision Plan is proposed to construct a third traffic circle at Grand Avenue and Maple Street in addition to sidewalk and lighting improvements between Maple Street and Escondido Boulevard. Staff continues to seek grant funding for this project phase.



CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

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On November 30, 2023, the City received two sealed bids in response to the advertised request for bids for constructing phase two of the Grand Avenue Vision Project. The bid results are listed below:

Nationwide Contracting Services Inc. ("Nationwide")	\$9,082,789.12
Griffith Company ("Griffith")	\$9,454,454.00

A bid protest letter was submitted to the City by the second low bidder, Griffith. In the letter, Griffith cited four perceived irregularities in Nationwide's bid that they believed should be the basis for the City to reject Nationwide's bid and award the construction contract to Griffith. The issues identified by Griffith included signature irregularities, bid form irregularities, and lack of a striping subcontractor listed in the bid submitted by Nationwide. Staff also identified minor mathematical errors in six out of the 119 bid items in Nationwide's bid schedule for this Project.

Staff in Engineering and the City Attorney's Office have examined these issues with Nationwide's bid and determined that they are minor and inconsequential irregularities and that waiving such irregularities would not do not provide an unfair competitive advantage to Nationwide and further would not affect Nationwide's bid amount. In addition, staff has confirmed that Nationwide will be self-performing the striping bid item, and therefore does not need a subcontractor for that bid item.

Staff has evaluated the bids and determined that the bid submitted by Nationwide is the lowest responsive and responsible bid. Staff recommends waiving the inconsequential irregularities in Nationwide's bid and awarding the Project construction contract in the amount of \$9,082,789.12 to Nationwide.

Construction of the Phase II project will be scheduled to begin in mid to late-September after the conclusion of the Crusin' Grand season. The construction duration is estimated to be 7-months long.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution No. 2023-159
- b. Resolution No. 2023-159 – Exhibit "A" – Public Improvement Agreement