



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
For the Meeting of June 26, 2023

Title/Subject

Resolution #2281- Awarding a contract for the Highland Avenue Overlay Project.

Summary and Background

This project will grind out and replace the asphalt from the vehicle travel lanes on West Highland Avenue from Highway 395 to SW 11th (Highway 207).

In 2015, this roadway section received a full-width “slurry seal” overlay which included the bike lanes, parking, etc. all the way from SW 11th to E 8th Street. Due to the volume and type of traffic (i.e. buses & delivery trucks), the section from 11th to 395 has deteriorated more rapidly than the portion east of 395, and the slurry seal overlay has begun to separate from the roadway within the travel lanes. However, the bike lanes and parking areas remain in good condition, which is why this project only recommends treating the travel lanes.

Although a grind and inlay project is disruptive to traffic during the work itself, it is relatively short, with the full grinding process likely to take no more than a day, and the followup paving process not much more than that. With subsequent work of relocating and adjusting utilities (i.e. sewer utility covers, water valves, etc.) taking a few days after that with more targeted disruptions. All work will be completed during the High School’s summer break, and will not impact the Umatilla County Fair Parade.

Tie-In to Council Goals

Transportation: Improve Mobility and Transportation

Fiscal Information

The following bids were received on June 20, 2023:

- Granite Construction, Inc.: \$389,950
- Engineer’s Estimate: \$399,000

This project is included in the adopted FY '24 budget, and is paid for entirely by state-shared gas tax revenue. Although the project only garnered one bidder, it was fully advertised as normal, and the final price came in right in line (slightly under) the engineer's estimate.

A decision not to award this contract in the hopes of gaining more bidders next time is not advised. The nature of this project means that the vast majority of the cost is associated directly with the asphalt materials themselves, with a small amount for the actual work of grinding old and laying new asphalt. There aren't other items such as utility replacement, curbing, etc. to add complexity to the project. Therefore, it is almost certain that any prime contractor bidding on this project was going to be using Granite Paving as the sub-contractor to supply the asphalt for the project anyway.

Not awarding this contract and re-advertising would only really be worthwhile if re-advertisement was held until the winter-time, for next summer's construction season. At that time, it is still very likely that Granite will be the only bidder, and almost certain that Granite will at least be one of only two or three bidders. At that point, we would really only be gambling on the hope that the price of oil comes down, when in reality it has just as much likelihood of going up; in which case, re-advertising is just as likely to cause the cost to go up as down.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Approve Resolution #2281
2. Reject Resolution #2281

Recommended Action/Motion

Approve Resolution #2281

Submitted By:

Mark Morgan