

CITY OF MARSHALL
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date:	Tuesday, July 14, 2020
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Type:	ACTION
Subject:	Consider request of Marshall Public Schools for City funding assistance for relocation of shared use path.
Background Information:	<p>Prior to approving project plans for a new elementary school on Southview Drive, a traffic impact study was completed by engineering firm Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH) to review possible traffic impacts to the adjacent street network. The predominate recommendation of the study was to re-stripe Southview Drive from a two-lane street with parking on both sides to a continuous two-way left turn lane (TWLTL) configuration with parking allowed on the south side of the street. To accommodate this TWLTL configuration, the painted on-street bike lanes would be eliminated. As a result, City staff recommended that Marshall Public Schools accommodate a widened sidewalk, 8-FT in width, to allow for shared use between bikes and pedestrians. Marshall Public Schools obliged and included a sidewalk widening in their project plans. The existing sidewalk was planned to remain, with the elementary school project contractor being required to add 4-FT of width to the existing sidewalk, connecting the new concrete to the existing concrete with steel tie bars.</p> <p>Once the project construction was underway, Marshall Public Schools staff reached out to City staff to discuss the shared use path alignment and cost. School staff believes that the proposed plan of adding sidewalk width and connecting with tie bars is not very feasible and may not result in the best end product. Further, school staff believes that snow removal on the path may be difficult due to heavy snow drifting on this portion of Southview Drive and the close proximity of the sidewalk to Southview Drive would result in a lot of plowed snow being deposited on the path. The school is proposing to install new path a minimum of 11-FT off the street curb, with exception to school driveway crossings. School staff believes that a greater distance between sidewalk and curb—11-FT instead of 5-FT—will offer greater user comfort and safety, and easier snow removal for school staff.</p> <p>To help facilitate the added cost of moving the path, Marshall Public Schools is asking for City cost participation in the amount of \$37,051 to evenly split the \$74,102 cost as provided by their contractor to complete the path along the new proposed alignment.</p> <p>The school project included significant sanitary sewer relocation due to the new school being built on the location of existing sanitary sewer facilities. The school installed over 1,000-FT of new 15" PVC sanitary sewer to relocate around the new school building. Additionally, the school district included the replacement of 300-FT of 10" sanitary sewer main that did not specifically lie within the footprint of the school. While the sewer needed to be replaced, the school project didn't specifically and directly impact the existing segment of 10" sanitary sewer that was replaced. City staff estimates that the cost of installing 300-FT of 10" PVC sewer and other associated work would result in a cost that is very similar to the amount being requested by Marshall Public Schools.</p>
Fiscal Impact:	Per Finance, \$37,051 to be paid by the Wastewater Utility Fund. This project was unbudgeted for in 2020 and could result in the use of reserves.
Alternative/Variations:	No alternative actions recommended.
Recommendations:	that the Council authorize City staff to utilize Wastewater Utility funds to pay to the school district in support of their new elementary school construction project.