

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM MEMO
REGULAR MEETING 5/26/2026**

SUBJECT: Base and Alternate Bid proposals for the City of Rochelle 2026
Sidewalk/pedestrian paths Capital Improvements Program

Staff Contact: Sam Tesreau, City Engineer

Summary:

The annual sidewalk/pedestrian path Capital improvements project, as administered by the Engineering Department, provides for the replacement of existing sidewalks and/or construction of new sidewalks, pedestrian paths, curb and gutter improvements and other related items throughout the City. The program provides for improved accessible pedestrian access routes including ramps for the disabled and other users. This is part of an effort to continuously improve our pedestrian network for all users and meet certain ADA and PROWAG standards. The program is primarily funded through the Utility Tax Fund (UTF), established over 25 years ago, to annually address the needed and required upgrades to the City's pedestrian sidewalk system, associated curb and gutter replacement, street pavement restoration and landscaping restoration. Since its inception over 1,300,000 square feet of sidewalk and/or other pedestrian paths, concrete curb and gutter, and hundreds of accessibility ramps have been improved through replacement and/or new construction. The UTF has also been utilized to supplement new sidewalk, pedestrian path, curb and gutter, and storm sewer and inlet/manhole construction on multiple roadway, bridge, storm sewer and City Street urbanization/reconstruction projects.

The project plans and specifications were developed by the City Engineering Department and advertised on May 6th in the Rochelle News leader and on the City website. Bids were publicly opened and read aloud on May 20th at 11:00 am for the above referenced project. Five separate bids were received, and the lowest two Base bids are as follows:

- TCI Concrete, Inc. submitted a Base bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$335,370.00 with an Alternate Bid of \$216,564.00
- Bruns Construction, Inc. submitted a Base bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$362,278.00 with an Alternate Bid of \$186,535.00

The lowest Base bid is approximately 12% lower than the Engineer's estimated costs for the project. The Alternate Bid is approximately 2% lower than Engineer's estimate of cost. The project is funded by UTF administered by the Engineering Department. A transfer from the FY26 UTF #18-00 will be made to the FY 26 CIP fund to cover costs associated with the project. The City will purchase detectable warning plates, storm inlets/manholes, hot mix asphalt, aggregate base course and pavement striping materials for use on the project. These materials will be used by the Public Works Department crews to provide HMA pavement replacement/patching restoration along new curb and gutter sections and within or adjacent to the project limits.

Furthermore, given the favorable contract unit prices for multiple construction items it is recommended that approval be given to the City Manager or his designee City Engineer to negotiate further change order work, not to exceed \$47,000, within the proposed contract to facilitate other improvements and upgrades to sidewalks or curbs adjacent to this project or within the City limits. It is anticipated that the construction project will be substantially complete by the end of October 2026. However, additional time will be granted for any additional work.

The Alternate Bid was received for sidewalk work along IL Rte. 251, from near Lakeview Drive south to Cleveland Ave. However, park district officials have recently raised objections to a “shared use path” being constructed under a current agreement with the City on the golf course property. The City Engineer believes a majority of the Alternate Bid improvements can be built under a permit, to be issued by the IDOT, within its ROW. Some modifications may be necessary to move minor encroachments on the golf course property to avoid certain above ground utilities. The City Engineer is concerned that delaying the permit, currently in process with IDOT along IL Rte. 251, would substantially add to the approval time and project cost because of the objection. Therefore, it is recommended that the Alternate Bid be approved at this time to allow a majority of the sidewalk pedestrian path to be constructed while investigating other alternatives to path alignment and/or construction to avoid the utility conflicts.

Funding Sources:

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:
CIP 36-00 available funds	\$382,000 Base construction, \$220,000 Alternate construction \$27,000 City materials	Base Bid proposal \$335,370.00 Alternate Bid \$216,564.00 Change order/improvement add on to the Base Bid \$47,000.00
		\$27,000 HMA/other City materials

Strategic Plan Goal Application:

infrastructure effectiveness and improvement short term complex

Recommendation:

- Consider acceptance of the Base Bid proposal and award the contract to TCI Concrete, Inc. and reject all other bids received.
- Consider acceptance of the Alternate Bid proposal and award the contract to TCI Concrete, Inc. and reject all other bids received.
- Consider approval and authorization of a not to exceed \$47,000 improvement add on (contract change order) to be negotiated by the City Manager or his designee City Engineer for improvements to City sidewalks, shared use paths, streets/alleys and drainage systems adjacent to the project limits and within the approved contract unit pay items.
- Consider approval and authorization of a not to exceed \$27,000 to purchase materials by the City Manager or his designee City Engineer for improvements or restoration to City sidewalks, streets/alleys and drainage systems, pavement striping/markings and signage within or adjacent to the project limits.