

Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE REPORT



MEETING: Council Committee Meetings – 23 Feb 2021
Present: P6 Alan Nix, Chair; P1 Mark McClinton; P3 Nick Robinson; P8 Brandon Huckabee
Absent: None
DEPARTMENT: Public Works
STAFF CONTACT: Nick Williams

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

Agenda Item 2: 2021 TxCDBG – Main Street Program – Engineering Firm Selection

Discussion: An overview of the Texas Community Development Block Grant – Main Street Revitalization program was presented. It was noted that the city solicited, received, and independently rated several engineering proposals with the submittal provided by Freese and Nichols, Inc. being the top-rated submittal for design of a grant-compliant project. It was further noted that there would be no cost associated with the grant application and any design costs would only be applicable if the grant were awarded to the city.

Committee Action: Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. McClinton, seconded by Mr. Robinson to forward a positive recommendation to the full council to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for the design engineering services for the TxCDBG Main Street Grant application.

Following further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. McClinton, seconded by Mr. Robinson to identify a project within the proposed Main Street District and begin the preliminary work for the TxCDBG Main Street grant application.

Recommendation: The committee voted to unanimously forward a positive recommendation to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for the design engineering services for the TxCDBG Main Street Grant application.

The committee also voted to unanimously forward a positive recommendation to authorize staff to identify a grant-compliant project within the proposed Main Street District area for the TxCDBG Main Street grant application.

Agenda Item 3: 2021 Harbin Drive Improvements – Median Recommendation

Discussion: The layout of the proposed Harbin Drive Improvements was revisited. It was noted that the use of medians in the residential blocks between Frey Street and Overhill Street was discussed at the 01/19/2021 committee meeting, including some public comment.

A formal recommendation was received from Freese and Nichols, Inc., as the design engineer of record, stating, "Due to the projected traffic volume on Harbin Drive... it is advised that Harbin Drive be built with a median to protect the driver and the neighboring community." It was also noted the use of 4-way stop signs at Mimosa and Overhill is not a part of the base recommendation and will not be incorporated in the initial design.

Committee Action: Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Huckabee to implement the medians, as recommended by the design engineering firm of record.

Recommendation: The committee voted 3-1 to proceed with the design and implementation of medians in Harbin Drive as recommended by the engineering firm of record, with Mr. McClinton as the dissenting vote.

Agenda Item 4: 2021 Harbin Drive Improvements – Amendment for Drainage Outfall Design

Discussion: The Harbin Drive Improvements project was discussed with reference to stormwater drainage and coordination with Tarleton State University. It was noted the city and the university have been working on a mutually beneficial solution to address the stormwater drainage from the Harbin Drive Improvements and the runoff from the university campus.

It was also noted that Tarleton recently provided written confirmation of the university's increase in contribution from \$1.0 million to \$1.4 million to address the cost of the construction of drainage improvements from Washington Street, through the TSU Pecan Orchard and the West End Cemetery to an outfall south of Swan Street.

It was noted the amendment for the design services was a not-to-exceed amount of \$137,611.

Committee Action: Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. McClinton, seconded by Nick Robinson to approve the amendment with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for the design of stormwater improvements.

Recommendation: The committee voted forward a unanimously positive recommendation to approve the amendment with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for the stormwater engineering design services.