



Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda Item Submittal

Item To Be Considered: **Bicentennial Park Dockwalk Extension Project**

Board Meeting Date: **August 13, 2024**

Prepared By: **Jon Barlow – Town Manager**

Overview: An RFP was posted and advertised for construction of a fixed timber platform, floating dock, and new floating slips at the existing waterfront access for the Bicentennial Park Dockwalk Extension Project. Sealed bids were opened on August 6, 2024, and six contractors submitted bids. The lowest bid received was \$233,200, significantly over grant funds available. In an effort to keep this project moving, 3 options are proposed to proceed with the project.

Expanded Overview: In November 2020, the Town received a NC Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grant. The project basically consists of 150'x 12' Dockwalk ovetop an existing bulkhead. The Dockwalk will tie in from the southern end of Bicentennial Park to the western end of the existing Town dock in the Moore Street right-of-way. Additionally, a 100' x 8' floating dock will connect to the existing Moore St. dock. There will be enough boat slips to accommodate 6 day visitors.

The grant award was \$142,350 with a cash match of \$9,000, a non cash match of \$7,000, for a total amount of \$158,350. This figure includes engineering design fees and construction. The estimated cost was probably accurate in 2020. Construction and material costs have exploded in the past 4 years.

The project deadline has been extended several times for various reasons since the award in 2020. Normally extensions are given up to 2 years. We are going on 4. A final extension was granted in July 2024 through April 1, 2025.

Sealed bids were opened on August 6, 2024. Six contractors submitted bids (see attached bid form). The apparent low bid was received from Carteret Marine in the amount of \$233,200. Significantly over grant funds available. In an effort to keep this project moving, 3 options are proposed:

1. Authorize the Town Manger to work with the project Engineer and the lowest responsible bidder, Carteret Marine, in an effort to modify the design in a manner that brings the project within budget or closer to budget. Appropriate fund balance to make up the difference.
2. Appropriate Fund Balance to make up the difference between grant funds and actual construction costs without modification to the design.
3. Don't perform the project and return the grant funds.

Background Attachment(s): Bid tabulation form

Recommended Action: Authorize the Town Manager to work with the project Engineer and the lowest responsible bidder, Carteret Marine, in an effort to modify the design in a manner that brings the project within budget with consideration given to the use of fund balance. Return to the Board as soon as possible with a revised construction cost.

Action: _____

