



AGENDA MEMO

Business of the City Council City of Sweeny, Texas

Meeting Date	08.27.2024	Agenda Items	
Approved by City Manager	Yes	Presenter(s)	Lindsay Koskiniemi, City Manager
Reviewed by City Attorney	No	Department	Capital and Special Projects, Administration
Subject	Update and presentation on status of grant applications and capital and special projects.		
Council Strategic Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vibrant Economy – Improve service quality to utility customers 2) Infrastructure Investment – Provide adequate water supply both now and in future. 3) Sense of Community – Adopt formalized planning documents to incorporate into City policy 4) Government Sustainability – Endure government transparency 5) Safe and Beautiful City - Improve conditions of public spaces 		
Attachments / Supporting documents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant Status Summary Report 2. Capital and Special Project Summary Report 3. Strategic Plan Summary Page - 2024 		
Financial Information	Expenditure Required:	N/A	
	Amount Budgeted:	N/A	
	Account Number:		
	Additional Appropriation Required:		
	Additional Account Number:		

Executive Summary

As part of staff’s ongoing effort to keep the governing body and general public informed on construction projects and funding sources of major projects, reports on capital and special projects in progress as well as grant applications have been prepared for Council’s review. These reports should be updated and provided to Council at least twice a year or as often as needed to provide timely updates.

Commitment to the completion of projects in progress and grant applications support aspects of all five pillars of the Council’s adopted Organizational Strategy. Additionally, several pending funding requests align with Council’s directive to the City Manager to seek resolution on water quality (9/5/2023).

Project Status Report:

Currently, the City has 4 capital projects in progress and 2 special projects in progress. Capital projects include the GLO Sewer Trunk Line Replacement Project that spans approximately 2 miles of sewer main and broke ground this month; Pecan Street Water Line Replacement Project spanning from 1st St. to 5th St. which has not begun construction; Main Street Waterline Replacement that breaks ground this month, and Gas System Steel Service Line Replacement. The 2 special projects include Hurricane Beryl Debris Clean Up and Citywide Street Sign Change Out. The project status report provides project description, cost, fundings source(s), milestones,



AGENDA MEMO

Business of the City Council

City of Sweeny, Texas

contractor information, etc. Currently, the value of all projects in progress is \$6,373,970, of which \$4,431,495 is grant-funded.

Grant Application Report:

This report is segregated on grant application status: Application submitted / awaiting determination, intend to apply, awarded – project not started, project in progress or completed, application denied.

Currently, the City has \$51,722,148 in funding requests pending. Staff has concluded that the only viable way for the City to fully update all utility systems is to seek outside funding. \$6.8 million worth of projects have been awarded or conditionally awarded.

The City's application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) included a request for \$39.268 million for the replacement of over 17 miles of steel, 2" water lines with 6" poly line replacement and a system to remove naturally occurring elements in ground water such as iron and manganese. While the City's application did well and was within the 88th percentile, we do not expect to receive a determination if our application will progress in the process until this fall. If selected for funding, the City has the option to select all or none of the amount offered, as it is a low interest loan. Sweeny qualified as a "distressed community," meaning that the City's application, if selected, qualifies for 70% principal forgiveness and 0% interest for the out-of-pocket portion.

Another big ticket grant application pending is the City's PHMSA Natural Gas Distribution and Modernization Grant application for approximately \$12 million that, if selected for funding would include several miles of steel gas lines replacement with looped, upsized poly lines, all new isolation valves, and digital "smart" style meters to replace the analog meters currently in use. This proposed scope would fully bring the City's natural gas distribution system completely into compliance with regulatory requirements. The other 2 grant submittals awaiting a determination include the Livable Centers grant through H-GAC for economic development, walkability, and sustainability in City planning and the GLO Resilient Communities grant to support zoning and land use planning – both applications are consistent with the Council's strategic goal of Sense of Community – Adopting formalized planning documents to incorporate into City policy.

Recommended Action

Presentation only, no action required. Staff available to answer any questions the Council may have.