

Council Meeting Date: Regular City Council Meeting May 25, 2022

Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Agenda Item Subject/Title:

Discuss and take appropriate action to direct City Staff to review projects to be covered by the American Rescue Act of 2021 funds received by the City of Woodcreek for the purpose of managing and treating stormwater or subsurface drainage water, facilitating water reuse, and securing publicly owned treatment works.

Agenda Item Summary:

On November 25, 2021, the City of Woodcreek received \$212,600.25, and will receive the second payment of \$212,600.25 one year later for a total of \$425,200.50 to be obligated through December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026. on specific improvements relevant to the City's decaying infrastructure and, specifically, stormwater challenges in the City. Recipients may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to invest in necessary improvements to their water and sewer infrastructures, including projects that address the impacts of climate change. Recipients may use this funding to invest in an array of drinking water infrastructure projects, such as building or upgrading facilities and transmission, distribution, and storage systems, including the replacement of lead service lines. This funding is for investment in wastewater infrastructure projects, including constructing publicly owned treatment infrastructure, managing and treating stormwater or subsurface drainage water, facilitating water reuse, and securing publicly owned treatment works.

To help jurisdictions expedite their execution of these essential investments, Treasury's Interim Final Rule aligns types of eligible projects with the wide range of projects that can be supported by the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Recipients retain substantial flexibility to identify those water and sewer infrastructure investments that are of the highest priority for their own communities.

The challenges faced by residents of Woodcreek were confirmed in the 2017 Roadway Improvement Drainage Assessment conducted in 2017 as part of the City's 10-year Traffic Improvement Program. The engineering firm of Jones & Carter conducted the assessment which confirmed the lack of roadway drainage infrastructure in the majority of the City. Runoff, identified in the assessment as "sheets of water" flow throughout the neighborhoods due to the lack of curbs and underground storm sewer system.

The City has lacked the funds required to meet the recommendations of this assessment and reduce the negative impact caused by the flow of water to private and public property in the City.

The funds awarded to the City by the American Rescue Act of 2021 are not sufficient to complete all required improvement, but do provide an opportunity to address two of the most critical areas:

1. Drainage Area between 3 & 7 Westwood, 4 Westwood & 7 Brookhollow to Brookhollow.
2. Jack Miller.

Financial Impact:

There is no impact to the City's General Fund Revenues or Reserves, The funds allocated by the American Rescue Act of 2021 should be sufficient to cover these projects.

Recommendation:

Direct City staff to begin the process to investigate the cost of addressing the two areas identified giving priority and consideration to the date funds must be spent in compliance with the American Rescue Act of 2021. Funds allocated to the City would have to be returned to the Federal Government if unspent.

Submitted by: Mayor Pro Tem Aurora LeBrun