



# City Council Report

**Date:** October 16, 2023  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Marc Heirshberg, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Beth Huning, City Engineer  
Marc Ahlstrom, Assistant City Engineer  
**Subject:** Central Mesa Sewer Interceptor  
City Project No. CP0956SR06  
Council District(s) 1, 3, and 4

## Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to present the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the Central Mesa Sewer Interceptor, a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) project. (See Exhibit "A" for project location).

Staff recommends that Council award a contract for this project to Achen Gardner in the amount of \$11,862,525.06 (GMP) and authorize a change order allowance in the amount of \$1,186,252.51 (10%).

## Background

The Central Mesa Interceptor (CMI) is a series of large diameter sewer pipes that collect wastewater from residential and commercial areas in central Mesa and sends it to the Northwest Water Reclamation Plant (NWWRP) for treatment. The CMI starts near the intersection of Gilbert Road and University Drive and is approximately 8 miles long. It conveys approximately 6 million gallons per day (MGD) in pipes ranging from 30-inches to 48-inches in diameter.

Approximately 70% of the CMI was installed in the late 1980s. Deterioration of the pipe and liner were initially documented in 2009. A later inspection in 2021 documented further deterioration of the pipe, requiring rehabilitation to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the system. The rehabilitation includes bypassing existing sewer flows, cleaning the existing pipe, installing a new cured in place pipe liner, and repairing the adjacent manhole. This process consists of inserting a flexible resin saturated pipe liner into the existing pipe. hot water is circulated through the new liner which cures the resin. The work is performed entirely within the existing pipes and manholes, resulting in a quicker, less invasive, completion of the rehabilitation process.

## **Discussion**

In January of 2023, Staff received four “Statements of Qualifications” (SOQ) from contractors proposing to act as the CMAR for this project. Based on an evaluation of the SOQ’s, Achen-Gardner was recommended as the most qualified CMAR and was awarded a Pre-Construction Services contract on July 26, 2023. Achen-Gardner has performed pre-construction services during the design development including reviewing the design for constructability, preparing cost estimates, and developing the project schedule and phasing.

Community Impact – This project has six (6) distinct work areas that will have traffic restrictions in the general area of the sewer mains and manholes. Some work will occur at night to facilitate the improvements during lower flow periods. The work will be phased to minimize overall impact to the public.

Once underway, construction of this project is anticipated to last no more than 8 months.

## **Alternatives**

An alternative to the approval of a Construction Services contract for this CMAR would be to construct this project using the traditional Design/Bid/Build method. This is not recommended due to the size, complexity, schedule coordination and phasing of the project. The majority of the work in this project was competitively bid by Achen-Gardner to multiple subcontractors, staff will ensure that Mesa based businesses, including affiliated business, are given an opportunity to bid on the work.

Another alternative is not to perform the work. This is not recommended because the sewer pipes need rehabilitation to continue conveying wastewater. If the pipes are not repaired with this current project, continued deterioration over time will require the pipe to be removed and replaced at a much higher cost and impact to the public. Constructing these improvements will improve the integrity and safety of the City's sewer systems, which will positively impact the City of Mesa general public.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The total authorized amount recommended for this project is \$13,048,777.57, based upon a GMP of \$11,862,525.06, plus an additional \$1,186,252.51 (10%) as a change order allowance. This allowance will only be utilized for approved change orders.

This project is funded by Utility Systems Revenue Obligations.

## **Coordinated With**

The Water Resources Department concurs with this recommendation.