



City Council Report

Date: February 5, 2018
To: City Council
Through: Kari Kent, Assistant City Manager
From: Beth Huning, City Engineer
Marc Ahlstrom, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Sidewalks at Railroad Crossing on Alma School Road
City Project No. CP0184ALM
Districts 3 and 4

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Council concerning the results of the bids received for Sidewalks at Railroad Crossing on Alma School Road (See Exhibit "A" for the project location).

Staff recommends that Council award a contract for this project to the lowest responsible bidder, AJP Electric, in the amount of \$149,494.00, and authorize a change order allowance in the amount of \$14,949.00. (10%).

Background

In 2008, the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) Utility and Railroad Engineering Section (URR) identified the need for safety improvements at the Alma School Road railroad crossing (Project). The Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) currently owns and operates this railroad crossing. ADOT contacted Mesa about participation in the Railway-Highway Grade Crossing Program (RHGCP). The RHGCP is a federally-funded program to eliminate hazards at public railway-highway grade crossings. This project is eligible for reimbursement under the RHGCP. This program is administrated by the ADOT URR on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Mesa agreed to participate and asked ADOT to proceed with the Project on the City's behalf. ADOT URR, acting as the project coordinator, is responsible for coordinating the Project tasks with both UPRR and Mesa. UPRR, through a separate agreement with ADOT, will furnish and install two new signal cantilevers, four flashing lights/gates (two in the median), and additional concrete surface panels for sidewalk relocation at the at-grade crossing with Alma School Road. Mesa will be responsible for adjusting the existing concrete sidewalks around the proposed cantilevers and gates, and installing concrete

medians. Once underway, construction of this project is anticipated to last no more than 3 months, including UPRR's work.

This project was previously awarded by Council on July 10, 2017, however, the previously selected contractor could not comply with the federal requirements and the project was released for bid a second time.

Discussion

The existing sidewalk and median at the Alma School Road railroad crossing do not meet current railroad approach and clearance standards. The project improvements for roadway and sidewalk approach at this location will facilitate greater public safety and needed clearances from railroad signals along with a smoother roadway crossing of the UPRR track at Alma School Road.

Community Impact – This project will improve the Alma School Road railroad crossing to current standards. Temporary impacts during construction will include traffic control measures along Alma School Road between Main Street and Broadway Road. Public access along Alma School Road at the railroad will be reduced to one lane at times each way during construction. Flagging, as required by UPRR, will also be part of this project to direct traffic at the crossing during construction.

Alternatives

The City Council could choose not to construct these sidewalk and median improvements. Not constructing this project will leave the existing infrastructure in place, which does not conform to existing railroad crossing standards. Mesa's lack of participation would result in Mesa not receiving a federal reimbursement and obtaining necessary funding to complete the improvements. This alternative is not recommended.

Fiscal Impact

The total authorized amount recommended for this project is \$164,443.00, based upon the lowest responsible bid \$149,494.00, plus an additional \$14,949.00 (10%) as a change order allowance. This change order allowance will only be utilized for approved change orders.

This project is funded by the capital budget (Local Street Sales Tax) of which 94.3% will be reimbursed by ADOT (Federal) Grant under the RHGCP.

Coordinated With

The Transportation Department concurs with this recommendation.

CITY OF MESA
MESA, ARIZONA

Sidewalks at Railroad Crossing on Alma School Road

PROJECT NO. CP0184ALM

Tabulation of Bids Received, Thursday, December 14, 2017, at 1:30PM

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE	\$160,206.50
1. AJP Electric	\$149,494.00
2. Lincoln Construction	\$154,368.00
3. Standard Construction	\$196,950.00